

THE PORTAL



FOUNDED
IN 1901

A PUBLICATION OF BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL

VOLUME THREE, NUMBER ONE

FALL 1991



(Right): Junior School House Heads cuddle their house mascots: (L-R) Sarah Coyle, Glen Gairn; Ashleigh Auty, Ballater; Ryann Jessiman, Craig Gowan; Michelle de Groot, Braemar. (Photo: Ruth Young)



(Below): Cheering for their Houses: (L-R) Seema Joshi, Megan Dodds, Isha Khan, Marnie Smith, Wendy Welby. (Photo by Walter Janzen)





FOUNDED IN 1961



COVER:

1990-91 Grade One students Laura Shore (left) and Robin Jessiman (right) share a special moment with Grade 12 students (L-R) Isha Khan, Head Girl; Seema Joshi, Sports Captain; Marnie Smith, Braemar House Head; Megan Dodds, Ballater House Head and Wendy Welby, Glen Gairn House Head.

INSIDE BACK COVER:

Teachers and students enjoy Spirit Week activities, and Grade 6 students express their enthusiasm for Balmoral hall.

The Portal is published by
Balmoral Hall School
630 Westminster Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3S1

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Cover Photo:

Walter Janzen, Janzen Photography

Inside Back Cover Photos:

Albert Cheung, ADC Camera Originals

Production and Design:

WriteStuff Publishing Ltd.

28 - 88 South Park Dr. Winnipeg

Printed by Buchanan Printers

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EDITORIAL

Growth, achievement and celebration marks year ahead



RUTH YOUNG

“As we go to press I look at bulldozers, cement mixers, boiling tar, great lumps of mud, and piles of gravel. What a contrast to the architect's drawing! But the drawing is to be a reality in September.”

These words could have been penned now, in the summer of 1991, but they actually appeared 30 years ago, in the 1961 Balmoral Hall Yearbook, *Optimum Anni*.

Written by Yearbook Editor, Jacqueline Lye, the comments reinforce the validity of the old expression “*plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose*”—the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Our school, and our founding schools, Havergal, Riverbend, and Rupert's Land, represent, and have always represented, a wonderful sense of balance between our strong sense of tradition, and our forward-looking attitude.

Often a somewhat delicate balance, this consistent recognition of the importance of history, and our keen sense of roots, has always successfully co-existed with our ability to accept change, and to adapt to an ever-evolving world. The needs and goals of our students are constantly changing in the dynamic environment of the '90s, and it is our responsibility to remain flexible, and meet each new challenge. At the same time we must keep the torch of tradition alive.

In this issue of *The Portal*, there is much evidence of this incredible balance between our history and our future.

Headmaster Brian Porter looks at the “harbour” the school is seeking, as we constantly strive to be better in every way.

We take a look back to the history of our school houses, and the integral role the house system has always played in our school.

One of our very committed and supportive alums takes a thoughtful look at her own life at B.H., and offers some insight into the successful “delicate balance.”

In this coming year, we look forward to the 90th Birthday of our school, a most significant landmark. This should be a year of celebration, a year of achievement, a year of growth, a year of memories. And, hopefully, a year to remember.

This issue also showcases the stunning physical developments taking place on campus. Our students will be returning this September to state-of-the-art science labs, computer labs, a new library, a special music room, and a delightful common room. This wonderful facility is a tangible sign of Balmoral Hall's commitment to providing our students with the most up-to-date learning environment.

And, of course, there are our students, the pulse of our present. The outstanding accomplishments of many of our students are highlighted in this issue. They bring great pride to Balmoral Hall.

A premium educational institution, we must continue to maintain our traditions and a sense of our rich heritage, while eagerly welcoming the challenges ahead.

As we face the future, and as we educate our students to excel in a changing world, let us remember the value of balance. The prophet Kahlil Gibran wrote, “There are only two lasting things we can give our children - one is roots, the other wings.”

At Balmoral Hall, let us always strive to provide both roots and wings.—*Ruth Young*



Houses: united we stand!

"The four houses are the most important part of school. They are all the hopes and dreams and thoughts and efforts of the schoolgirls, and are the foundation of the school...."

From "The House System," an essay by Leslie Florance, Grade 11/Rupert's Land Eagle, 1939.

A unique concept in student participation, the House System, as we know it today at Balmoral Hall, had its early beginnings within the founding schools. At Havergal, founded in 1901, the student body was not large enough to support a House System. Riverbend and Rupert's Land schools each instituted its own unique House System with separate traditions and philosophies.

Riverbend School For Girls opened its

doors in September of 1929. Under the direction of Headmistress Jesse May Carter, the house system was instituted in 1933, "in order to stimulate competition among the students in their own grades and, among them collectively, to have a student system of government."

The students (and staff) were divided into three Houses named after forts in Manitoba: Douglas, Garry, and York. In 1937, because of an increase in enrolment, another House was added—Nel-

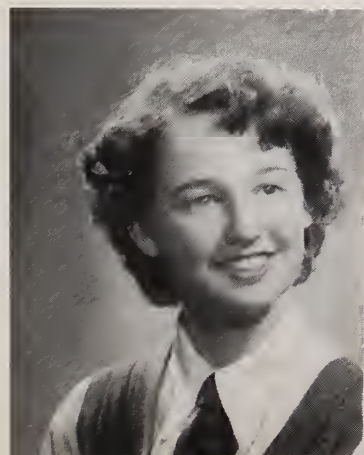
son—named after Fort Nelson. The Houses were run by councils, consisting of a House Head chosen from grade 11 or 12; a secretary from grade 10; a sports captain from grades nine to 12;

and a treasurer from either 11 or 12. Business-like meetings were held regularly.

The Houses would compete for points through Inter-House competitions in such sports as baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, bowling, and through track and field events on the annual Field Day. The Houses were also active in charitable events, including annual Christmas hampers, and in social events, such as the Lilac Tea.

House members would work for house-points, which were totalled and averaged at the end of each term. At the end of the school year, the House with the highest average had its name printed on the Sir James Aikins Memorial plaque, and was the proud "possessor" of "Winged Victory." Winged Victory was a statue donated by Mr. Harold Aikins to Riverbend School for Girls, "...to remind us, one and all, of the victory we are seeking." The statue was a replica of the Greek statue Nike, the Goddess of Victory.

Rupert's Land Girls' School, which



Riverbend Prefects Marion Anderson (top left), Elspeth Burris (top right), Didi Richard (bottom left) and Shirley Dawson (bottom right). An excerpt from the 1946-47 Riverbend Yearbook.

was originally Havergal Ladies College, began a House System in 1929, under the direction of Principal Gladys E. Millard. At that time, the idea of a House System did not readily catch on. But, as the growing potential of student self-government increased, so did the House network.

The primary aim of the House System was to assist the students in the ability to work together in smooth cooperation and good fellowship. The secondary aim was to promote competition towards seeking excellence. So, by doing good work, the House, as well as the individual, was honoured.

The four Houses were named, "Dalton," after Miss Martha J. Dalton (the first Headmistress), "Jones," after Miss Eva L. Jones (the second Headmistress), "Machray" and "Matheson" (after the two archbishops of Rupert's Land diocese).

Each House was made up of the president (usually a teacher), a captain, vice-captain, secretary, treasurer and junior and senior sports captains and lieuten-

ants. The Houses would compete for points to attain the House Shield. Besides competence on the athletic field, academic achievement counted as well. Rupert's Land used the point system as a deterrent to detention and poor marks. A detention could mean that a fifth of a mark would be taken off a House's collective points.

The Houses also participated in such events as the Inter-House Music Festival, a story-telling competition and dramatic productions. The Annual Mission Tea was also used as a House event to raise funds for the Anglican Church Mission.

Each House also had an individual tie, pin and colour. Matheson was black; Machray, green; Jones, pink; and Dalton, blue. These colours were worn proudly on Sports Day.

With the merging of the two schools in 1950, there was also a merging in the traditions of the Houses. It was a challenging task to merge two competitive girls' schools, where the House spirit had already been well developed to encourage the student's loyalty to not only her individual House, but to her School as well.

Therefore a whole new school community had to be created. A new School with a new name, a revised set of merged traditions and, of course, a new set of Houses! The name Balmoral Hall was chosen to honour the Queen's residence in Aberdeenshire, Scotland—Balmoral Castle.

"From the many high turrets, one of which is 100 feet high, can be seen a



commanding view of the surrounding districts. To the west can be seen Braemar, to the north, Glen Gairn, while one mile to the south on the hill, Craig Gowan, stand the memorial monuments of Queen Victoria, Albert Prince Consort, Princess Alice and other members of the Royal Family of Great Britain. Nine miles to the west is the railway station of Ballater. Notable people of the Victorian Era and a good many of the Edwardian and the Georgian Eras have stepped down on its platform, as it is the station for Balmoral Castle." (*From the Balmoral Hall Yearbook, 1951, an article by Daphne Hanson, Grade 10.*)

Thus, four new Houses were inaugurated into Balmoral Hall School—Ballater, Braemar, Craig Gowan, and Glen Gairn. Houses again competed in a wide range of sports, dramatic, and charitable events. In 1966, House Prayers were initiated. This service was planned and conducted by the House Head. Ballater introduced a new hymn to the School's repertoire—"The Battle Hymn of the



(Above): "Winged Victory"—The Sir James Aikins Memorial Trophy awarded to the House with the highest average in Riv-erbend and Balmoral Hall Schools. (Above Left): Girls in the class of '44 participate in gymnastic exercises. (Left): Eva L. Jones House—an excerpt from the *Rupert's Land College Magazine*, 1932.



House, Jones House, Machray and Matheson! Alumnae united in spirit and in memory of those special moments in the Houses of our School. □

(Left): Balmoral Hall's first House Heads of 1950-51. L-R: Moira Morrison, Margaret Loughheed, Mary Hope McInnis, and Sally Dangerfield. (Below): The House Heads and their mascots of 1969. Front: Pamela Dangerfield (l), Judy Dodd (r); Back: Cheryl Tamblyn (l), and Karen Collins (r).

Republic." Many alumnae still fondly remember Blake's "Jerusalem," now a traditional hymn at Closing Exercises.

During the next 40 years many changes may have taken place at Balmoral Hall, but the traditions of the House System are still intact. Competition between Houses is full of team spirit! During Spirit Week and House Assemblies, the girls let off tension and the rafters of Richardson Hall echo with the cries of team cheers.

Generally, House activities are mainly in the Sports arena, with the two major House events being the Annual Swim Meet and the Inter-House Track and Field Day. Points are still given to each House for debating meets. The Houses also join in various charitable events, like the Terry Fox Run.

Because of the size of the Houses (Braemar, 95 students; Ballater, 90; Glen Gairn, 94; and Craig Gowan, 89), inter-house activities are usually held by grade.

During the Balmoral Hall years, a new tradition has been added—mascots. Each house has chosen various mascots through the years. Some Craig Gowanites may remember Craig, the lion. Today, there are Kermit, Big Bird, Pooh Bear and Bernadette the hippopotamus.

The spirit of a house is only as strong as the individuals that are in it. That spirit still lingers within the heart of each alumna of Craig Gowan, Glen Gairn, Braemar, and Ballater; York House, Nelson House, Garry and Douglas; Dalton



Japan: a strange brew of excitement

By **Adrian Hersak**
Grade 12 student

A tour of Japan and Hong Kong sounded exciting, but I never actually thought that it would come to be. On June 15, 1990, after months of long rehearsals and fundraising, the Balmoral Hall School Choir embarked on a two-week journey that would enrich our lives. I relate to you my own story, and the experiences that we all shared.

Accompanied by Headmaster, Mr. Brian Porter, Choir Director, Mrs. Pat Rabson and Chaperone/Teacher, Ms Shideh Khorasheh, we flew to Seattle. Here, we had one of our many long airport waits, until it was time to say, "Konitchua" to Japan Air Lines, and a 21-hour trip. Almost immediately after clearing customs, we were approached by Mr. Nakajima, the representative of the Universal Express Travel Agency, who was easily identifiable by his B. H. tie.

We stayed overnight at the Shiba Park Hotel, where a sign in the lobby read, "Welcome Choir Trip to Japan." The next morning, we were off by cab to the underground train station to catch the bullet train to Shizuoka. Travelling with us was an English teacher from Shizuoka Eiwa Jogakuin, our Japanese sister school.

A closed-in plaza in Shizuoka Station contained press photographers and a delegation from Shizuoka Eiwa Jogakuin, all standing ready to welcome us. Our host families, Mr. So, the Headmaster, and Mrs. Inamori, the Vice-Principal, were all present to greet us. Masami Kubota, who attended Balmoral Hall this past year, was also there. It was a great comfort to see a familiar face.

The opening greetings were rather formal, with Mr. So speaking in Japanese and the host families responding with the



Adrian Hersak (left) and trip chaperone/teacher Shideh Khorasheh '82).

traditional gesture of bowing. The very prospect of 15 girls staying in Japanese homes for three days and nights was an exciting event for both ourselves and our hosts! It was also a frightening experience, as the homes were too small to hold more than one guest, and each of us would have to stay alone.

My host student was Mariko Tanaka. A couple of times I tried to start casual conversation like, "So what grade are you in at school?" But, the only response I kept getting was a big grin and a simple word, "Yes." It was going to be a very long three days! Mariko recognized my desperation and we made an emergency stop at a bookstore within half an hour to buy Japanese-English and English-Japanese dictionaries, as well as phrase books. These were a big help, and we spent much time in the following days practising short, easy conversations in English.

The next morning, I awoke and looked out the window (no screens in Japan because there are no bug problems) and to

my great surprise, a view of a beautiful majestic peak met my eyes. It was a charcoal grey colour and broken at the top.

"Fuji?," I enquired.

"Fuji," Mariko nodded.

I realized that I had not noticed it the day before because of all the cloud cover. I also realized that I was very lucky to have seen it, because the thick fog was rolling in, covering it with a smokey haze of humidity and pollution.

The train ride into Shizuoka from Fuji City was about one hour. We met up with Tammy Garrett and her host student, who lived in a neighbouring home. Every girl or boy whom we saw and recognized as being our age, was wearing a school uniform. Their uniforms were made of a light summer cotton, not the heavy Scottish wool of our kilts. We thought we would die in the 40-degree Celsius heat and high humidity.

After a never-ending walk through underground tunnels, shopping malls, street stores, and a tropical park, we came to a plain, cream-coloured building with the words, "Shizuoka Eiwa Jogakuin" in brown lettering.

We put on our special slippers with the help of Masami, who became our translator and floor director for the trip. Any time we were unsure of proper etiquette, or the order of our itinerary—anything at all—Masami was at the rescue.

Our first stop was the music room, where we warmed up for our performance in the daily morning chapel worship. I found out that, indeed, I was lucky, because I was billeted in a home with recognizable food and a toilet. Heather Jessiman had a hole in the ground in the backyard for a bathroom. Manon Lisowski, Mia Rabson and Tammy Garrett had all eaten raw fish for breakfast.

As a Methodist school founded by Canadian United Church missionaries more than 100 years ago, Shizuoka Eiwa still carries on the tradition of daily morn-

ing chapel. The building itself was furnished with beautiful old-wood decor, with a rather modern artist's interpretation of "The Last Supper" at the back of the stage. The Eiwa girls filed in neatly and precisely in twos, and with total symmetry, so that the left side of the pews were filled equally with the right side. All heads remained bowed until everyone was seated and a prayer was said in Japanese. We performed some sacred selections.

After worship, we filed into a small boardroom for an orientation lecture on Japanese culture.

Next, it was off to City Hall to meet the mayor. We set out on another endless walk down pavement that melted underfoot, and finally arrived at City Hall, which was a modern, mirrored skyscraper, complete with air-conditioning.

The mayor was a very kind man, who spoke no English, but communicated his good wishes through Mr. Ishikawa, who travelled with our party as a guide and interpreter. The mayor presented us with some beautiful gifts. Mr. Porter also exchanged greetings and gifts on our behalf. We sang "Hotaru Koi," a Japanese children's song, and "This Is My Home," the Expo '86 theme song. After a photo session for billeting parents with a press photographer, we were back on the sweltering streets.

We returned to Eiwa for lunch. Mrs.

(Above Right): Mr. Brian Porter, Headmaster, thanks the Mayor of Shizuoka City, Japan. (Below): The Balmoral Hall choir members join Japanese students in class.



Inamori had thoughtfully asked the school kitchen to prepare sandwiches, as a break from all of the Japanese food to which she knew we were not accustomed.

During lunch we were randomly put into threes for visits to Junior High English classes. Mrs. Inamori was the English teacher of the class that Summer Sprague, Vanessa Chang and I were to visit. Beforehand, she took us on a quick tour of the school, showing us the gymnasium and pointing out the many shoe lockers where the students leave their indoor shoes, before proceeding in sock feet to the gym. Even our shuffle-slippers would be taken off before entering the room, the floor of which had a perpetual mirror-like shine. We also saw the staff offices, cluttered with stacks of papers and books—much like those at B.H.!

The Junior High girls could not stop giggling. Vanessa, Summer and I sat in a row facing the class, watching them buzz with excitement, whispering to each

other and pointing at us. Mrs. Inamori greeted the class in Japanese, and they returned her greeting, all standing. She explained that the Japanese school year starts in April and ends the following March, with a two-week break in the summer.

These grade seven girls had only been in school for three months, so they knew very little English. One by one they stood and asked questions. They ranged from, "Do you like Japan?," to "How old are you?," or from "Do you have a brother or sister?," to "Do you play the piano?" Mrs. Inamori had prepared a worksheet with English phrases on the one side and Japanese phrases on the other, so we taught them a little more English, while they gave us the basics in Japanese. We did a lot of, "Repeat after me," and everyone had a good time. We were sorry when the bell rang.

Next stop was the gymnasium for the Student Council folk dance. Of course, we all entered the gym in our slippers, and after a grand procession, we were all sent back to re-enter in our sock feet. About 100 of us formed a giant circle, and we danced the "hora." I felt quite skilled, knowing that I had been taught in Mrs. Westdal's gym class. Mr. Porter even did a jive number with one of the Japanese girls!

The Student Council culture lessons came next. Each of us, including our three chaperones, were given a Japanese partner to offer extra help, while the president of the Student Council taught the entire class from the front of the room. We each





(Right) The traditional tea ceremony is presented to the honorary guests from Balmoral Hall.

made various origami structures, and painted our names and the words, "Japan" and "Friend" in calligraphy.

Afterwards, the Music Club treated us to a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. We knelt on the tatami mats in a horse-shoe shape. Two items of food were placed in front of us, together with a traditional Japanese green tea. Two girls at the side of the room played Japanese instruments. Another two girls gave a narrative explanation of the ceremony. Yet another performed a traditional dance in her kimono, using a fan.

The Student Council held a special concert for us at the end of the day. There was an opening prayer, a thank-you speech from the Student Council President, and performances from their choir and handbell choir. Our favourite number was "Beautiful Day." Our choir sang once more, and Marcella Beaulieu displayed her native Canadian costume, which was beautifully hand-made, with beadwork. Heather made a thank-you speech on our behalf, mentioning that we had made many friendships during our visit. Then each of us was presented with a music box by one of the Music Club members.

Tuesday began with all of us meeting at Shizuoka Eiwa to embark on a sight-seeing tour of the Shizuoka area. We learned we had made the newspaper again: a photograph of us singing "This Is My Home" at the mayor's office, appeared with an article.

By 10:30 a.m., we had arrived at the ruins of Toro Iseki, where restored buildings, a market, and two museums exist today. Along with our school group, we

saw many school groups of small Japanese children on special outings.

Lunch was at a traditional Japanese restaurant in Tenjinya. Lunch consisted of soup and tempura, a plate of various fried dishes, including octopus and squid. Our Coca-Cola was served in glass bottles, which many girls kept as souvenirs because of the Japanese characters written on the side, instead of the English words.

From the restaurant we continued on to the peak of Nihon Daira from where we viewed Shizuoka City. A gondola ride from the peak transported us to the Kunozan Toshogu Shrine, behind which is the burial place of the first Shogun, and also that of his horse. Now that we had ascended to the top of Mount Kuno, the only way down was via the 1600 stone stairs. They were quite ancient and dangerously broken up over the years, so it was impossible to run or to skip stairs on the way down. It was quite a hike!

During the afternoon, we took to the streets of Shizuoka to shop. The main street, Gofuku Cho Dori, had many shops of various price ranges, and was also the home of the two main Japanese department stores, Matsuzakaya and Isetan—kind of like Eaton's and The Bay.

As a formal thank-you to the members of the Shizuoka Eiwa community for being such gracious hosts, Balmoral Hall threw a reception party for the staff and billeting families at Coupole Hall in downtown Shizuoka. We enjoyed the formal-style sushi and other delicacies.

Mr. Porter presented B. H. memorabilia gifts to Eiwa staff members. Our choir performed some of our repertoire. Then the Eiwa girls took us up on the stage again to sing their school song. The only words we knew were the last two—"Shizuoka Eiwa."

Along with Masami Kuboto, five of our past grads came to see us: Yumiko, Akiko, Naomi, Takako, and Maho. The girls each said a few words about how much they treasured their memories of Balmoral Hall and Canada, and how much they longed to return. Their sentiments brought tears to many eyes.

Our last performance in Japan was at Eiwa Junior College, a post-secondary institution that is connected to Shizuoka Eiwa Jogakuin.

Our host families drove us to Shizuoka station. Tammy and I, being neighbours, were driven by our Japanese billeting mothers. As we drove, the women began to cry softly. It was very touching. We realized that in the short time we had visited these people, we had made an incredible impact on them. And, because we had been thrown into social situations in which self-reliance was the key to survival, we had learned a lot about ourselves, and we had grown.

I fumbled in my purse for my Japanese phrases, and Tammy and I said in unison, "Aieesheeteru," which means, "I love you." Inside the station, Mrs. Tanaka cried and rested her head on my shoulder. I gave her a hug, and she said to me in her best English, "Me Japanese mother. I love you. You my Canadian daughter."

When we departed for Hong Kong, I couldn't help but wonder if I would ever return to Japan, where ancient wonder combines with futuristic technology for a strange brew of excitement. We had only been in Japan for one week, but it seemed like a whole month. In Hong Kong, I was told a legend, which said that if you see Mount Fuji while in Japan, it is a guarantee of your return. The Japanese people and their country have captured a part of me, and I know that one day this will come true. □

Students involved in the community

A variety of charity projects keep Balmoral Hall students busy during the school year. This fall, the school broke a school record by raising \$1178.50 towards Cancer Research during the 10th Annual Terry Fox Run. Students from grades 1-12 joined with faculty members to walk, run, or jog along the Assiniboine River to Bonnycastle Park and back to the school. Colleen Plumton, Provincial Director, and Stan Kubicek, Honourary Provincial Chairperson, were at the school to start the Run. This successful run was again coordinated by Junior School Phys-Ed instructor Judy Christie.

In October, Grade 9 students volunteered during Tag Day for the Children's Variety Club of Manitoba and raised \$800 during two hours of canvassing. Heather Westdal, Student Activities Director, was thrilled with the students' enthusiasm.



In November, the Junior School worked very hard decorating the School's Christmas Tree contribution, "Celebration of Youth," to the Festival of Trees. Students in grades 3 to 6 created baked dough art tree ornaments, painted in neon colours. Delicate paper ornaments were crafted by the children in grades 1 and 2, while Kindergarten boys and girls produced fun holiday bags for display under the tree. Parent volunteer, Michelle Abbott coordinated the entire event, with Auxiliary members Brigitte Westmacott, Heather Bewza, Gail Hrousalas, and Karen Van Leusden adding the finishing touches to a very beautiful entry into the 1990 Festival of Trees at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. All proceeds of this event went to the Health Sciences Centre Research Foundation and the Junior League.

In December, students packed Christmas Hampers for needy families.

The Junior School raised funds through the sale of wrapping paper, and in a special assembly in December the students presented their donations to the following organizations: \$1,000 to Winnipeg Harvest; \$1,000 to the Christmas Cheer Board; \$1,000 to "The Safe House" on St. Matthews; \$1,000 to the Winnipeg Children's Hospital Protection Centre, and \$370 to Osborne House.

Senior students participated in the Lions Telethon held in January. And, in



(Top): Foster children are supported by the Residence Girls, and the Senior Student Council. (Above): Parent Volunteers Heather Bewza, Michelle Abbott, Gail Hrousalas, Helen Van Leusden, and Brigitte Westmacott (kneeling), pose in front of the School's entry into the Festival of Trees—"Celebration of Youth."

April the Modelling Club held its annual Fashion Show, with proceeds going to the Children's "Make a Wish" Foundation.

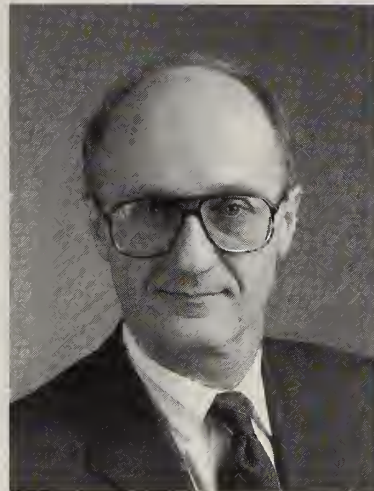
This May, our students offered assistance at the annual Teddy Bears' Picnic in Assiniboine Park. Proceeds raised from this event go to the Children's Hospital Research Foundation.

Balmoral Hall School encourages these charitable activities for the good of the community as a whole, and for the continued growth of Balmoral Hall students as giving, caring individuals with a profound commitment to philanthropy.

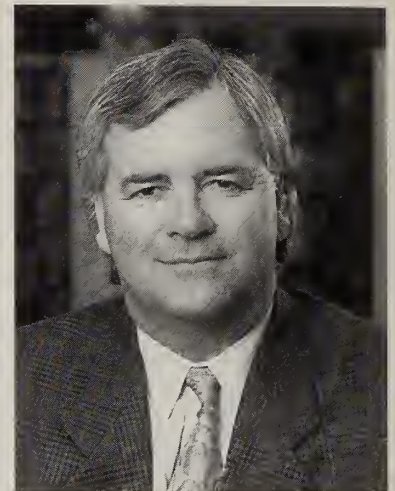
(Top Left): Grade 9 models show "What's Hot" during the Balmoral Hall Modelling Club Fashion Show. (L-R): Talia Hussain, Mya McNulty and Dawn Karpan at the Fashion Show. (Left): The Balmoral Hall Middle/Senior School Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Pat Rabson, performed at St. Vital Centre in support of the Manitoba Hospice Foundation.



DITTE CLOUTIER



BILL WATCHORN



BOB KOZMINSKI

Ditte Cloutier: first woman elected to chair

On a sunny morning in September, 1953, Ditte Lanksy, born in Copenhagen, Denmark, entered Balmoral Hall as a Kindergarten pupil. On July 1, 1991, Ditte (Lanksy) Cloutier, BH '66 began her two-year term as Chairman, Board of Governors, Balmoral Hall School, becoming the first woman and first alumna to hold this position.

Following graduation from Balmoral Hall in June 1966, Ditte moved to Paris, where she completed the *Certificat de Langue et de Civilisation Françaises* from the Sorbonne, University of Paris. Returning to Winnipeg in July 1967, she then earned the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba, majoring in French.

After completing university studies, Ditte worked for the Government of Canada in Toronto and Winnipeg, holding officer positions with what is now Employment and Immigration Canada.

In 1973, she joined The Royal Bank of Canada as a management trainee and assumed positions of increasing responsibility, as well as earning the AICB (Associate of the Institute of Canadian Bankers) designation from the University of Manitoba.

In 1980, awaiting her first child, Ditte decided to devote her time and effort to raising her family. At the time she left the Royal Bank, she was Assistant Manager, Commercial Loans at the Winnipeg Main Branch.

When Ditte's older daughter, Alexis, began the Kindergarten program at Balmoral Hall, Ditte recommenced her active association with the School. She has served as Vice-Chairman of the Board for the past year; has been Chairman of the Finance Committee; and has sat on the Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Scholarships and Bursaries Committee and the Steering Committee for Future Development.

As President, Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association (1986-1988), Ditte participated in two critical areas in the development of Balmoral Hall: as a member of both Task Force 2000 and the Reunion '87 Committee.

With a strong commitment to community, Ditte has served on a number of charitable organizations in various capacities: Vice-President, Kidney Foundation of Canada (Manitoba Branch); Director, Kidney Foundation of Canada; Executive Member and Volunteer Services Chairman, Manitoba UNICEF

Committee; Director, Health Sciences Centre Research Foundation Inc., and Chairman of that Foundation's Special Events Committee. Currently, Ditte is auditor of St. Alban's Anglican Church.

Paul Cloutier says that he is not surprised by Ditte's deep involvement in the community and passes on these words from her Kindergarten teacher, M. R. Hoggarth, who wrote in Ditte's Easter term report card in 1954: "Ditte has shown signs of leadership. She is reliable!"

Linda (Leach) Radcliffe, B.H. '63, past Executive Director of the Alumnae Association, describes Ditte as "a delightful paradox with feet planted firmly on the ground, yet with a gentle heart; a resolve steeped in ideals and standards often too high for many to obtain, yet comfortably flexible. Her commitment to B.H. is breathtaking; you name it, she's involved; and each involvement reaps 100 percent of Ditte's careful and thoughtful wisdom."

Ditte and Paul have two daughters who attend Balmoral Hall. Alexis is entering Grade 6 and Julia is entering Grade 1. □

Bill Watchorn: devoted to community involvement

As Chairman of the Balmoral Hall School Board of Governors for the past two years, Bill Watchorn has been in the thick of the dramatic physical changes in the school. He continues to believe what he stated in his remarks in *The Portal* when he assumed the Chair in July, 1989: "The Board of Governors is committed to Balmoral Hall providing a superior education, both academically and socially, for our students, including well-developed and disciplined work habits. Our objective remains to stress the education of the whole girl through a demanding academic, sports and extra-curricula program."

Mr. Watchorn is President and Chief Executive Officer of Federal Industries Industrial Group, which consists of five manufacturing companies with total revenues of approximately \$160 million, four plants in Canada, the U. S., England and France, and 1,200 employees.

In addition to his deep commitment to Balmoral Hall, he is also actively involved in the Winnipeg business community. Presently, he is a member of the Executive Committee of the Winnipeg 2000 Leaders Committee, is Chairman of the Manitoba-based Vision Capital Fund and is a Director of the Canadian Aging and Rehabilitation Product Develop-

ment Corporation.

Mr. Watchorn is also a director of the C. D. Howe Institute and Canadian Standards Association, both prominent national organizations..

Bill is married to Maureen and they have a daughter Meghan, age 12.

Despite his many community and business involvements, as Chairman of the Balmoral Hall School Board of Governors, 1989-91, Bill Watchorn gave nothing less than 100 percent commitment to the school, and we have benefitted greatly from his excellent judgment and deep dedication as our chairman.

Bill remains on the Board of Governors as Past Chair. □

Bob Kozminski: working to "give something back"

"One does not just take, but one must give something back in return and also help to build for the future." That's the basic philosophy of Bob Kozminski who was Chairman of the Board of Governors from 1987 to 1989, Past Chair from 1989 to 1991, and now has been invited to be a member of the Advisory Council. And during all of his time on the Board, Bob gave us his all, for which we are most grateful.

Mr. Kozminski is a lawyer-cum-(major) car dealership owner who, as a leader in the Winnipeg business community, has been involved in a myriad of worthwhile causes and projects. During his tenure of 10 years on the Board of Governors, he has taken a leadership role in many areas. Besides heading fundraising for the May Ball, Mr. Kozminski was responsible for spearheading the Build-

ing and Grounds Committee and Chairing the Forward Planning Committee.

When we profiled Mr. Kozminski in our very first issue of *The Portal* it was noted Balmoral Hall has reaped the fruit of his vision through his "initiatives and balanced projections along with a thread of risk-taking."

Adopting sound business principles to the School's operation, Mr. Kozminski implemented a solid fiscal policy. Instead of a short-term policy, as had been the case, the School now has a long-term policy, more in keeping with long-range planning concepts and practices.

Mr. Kozminski was very involved in the initial stages of our successful capital campaign "Enriching Her Tomorrows" and has continued his commitment to this on-going concentrated campaign.

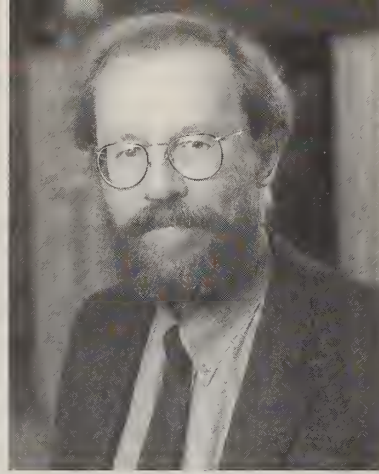
In addition to his commitments to the school, Mr. Kozminski has been involved

in fundraising for the Manitoba Heart Foundation and is a strong supporter of St. John's-Ravenscourt School, The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, The Manitoba Theatre Centre, St. Boniface Hospital Research Foundation, Junior Achievement and the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

His wife Deirdre, has also been deeply involved with the school, having been active on our Auxiliary. Their daughter, Megan is a student of the school, entering Grade 10, while their son, Matthew, attends St. Paul's High School. □



MAUREEN SHANSKI



GARRY HILDERMAN

Maureen Shanski: keen to see School's new facilities

Despite the fact that Maureen Shanski's two daughters have since graduated from Balmoral Hall and she now retires from the Board of Governors, her commitment to, and involvement in, the School will not be diminished.

In fact, for the School's 90th celebration next year, Mrs. Shanski will be co-chairing a birthday dinner bash along with Patty DeFehr. "It will be a fabulous event," she promises, adding that plans include having big band leader Mark Kenny, who is the father of a former B.H. headmaster Martin Kenny.

"Balmoral Hall is truly a great school. It

helps every girl achieve her true potential, and produces a well-rounded individual," she enthuses.

The entire Shanski family has been an active force in the school: husband John is a past Chairman of the Board; daughter Kristen, who graduated in 1988, was head girl of both Junior and Senior School; daughter Karen, who graduated last year, was a House Head and son Jonathan attended both nursery and kindergarten. As for Maureen, she's been involved in every committee going including Auxiliary, House, Ways and Means, Residence and currently the Building and Grounds Committee. She has even chaired the an-

nual May Ball.

But she's most keenly interested in seeing the new look of the school come to fruition. Prior to raising a family, Maureen studied interior design and fine arts, hence her interest in the school's reconstruction. She assisted in the refurbishing of Aikins House before former headmaster Ted Staunton and his family moved in.

In addition to B.H., Maureen has served on the executive of Big Sisters and the Manitoba Theatre Centre; she is currently studying the harpsichord. But Balmoral Hall will always play an important part in her life. "It's filled a large portion of my life, and will continue to do so." □

Garry Hilderman: using talents to create an environment

"My role on the Balmoral Hall Board of Governors," says Garry Hilderman, "is to help in the creation of a physical environment which will provide a great opportunity to develop imagination, scholastic ability and personal confidence for all the students who attend the school."

Mr. Hilderman is currently Chairman of the School's Building, Grounds, and Maintenance Committee, and considering his background and experience, we are most fortunate to have him serve in this capacity. Mr. Hilderman is Assistant

Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Manitoba and is a partner in the firm of Hilderman, Witty, Crosby, Hanna & Associates.

As Building Chair, Mr. Hilderman has steered the school through all of the current major construction, and has contributed enormously through his time and expertise. The successful completion of the spectacular facilities here at the School, owe a great deal to the commitment of this man.

In addition to being active on our own Board of Governors, Mr. Hilderman is

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Design of the National Capital Commission and sits as a member of the Historic Winnipeg Advisory Committee.

Recently his firm was awarded the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects National Honour, for work it has undertaken on the Red and Assiniboine Rivers during the past 18 years. This work was recently published in *Contemporary Landscape in the World*, Process Architecture Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan.

Mr. Hilderman's daughter, Sara Jane will be entering Grade 10 this fall. □

School choirs successful in competitions

At the Manitoba Music Festival, Balmoral Hall School choirs achieved great success. The Grades 4 to 6 Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Phyllis Ilavsky, won the Sir James Aikins Norquay Shield for placing first in the School Chorus, Grade 4 to 6 Class.

Performing a two-part song, Spring Wind, and a unison song, North Wind, the choir was chosen to compete at the provincial level, where they were the winners of the 14 Years and Under category at the Provincial Finals Choral Festival. Their taped performance will be the Manitoba entry in the National Choral

Finals for the Dr. and Mrs. J. F. K. English Award.

The Grade 2 and 3 Choir, also under the direction of Mrs. Phyllis Ilavsky, placed second in the School Chorus, Grade 1 to 3 Class, out of a total of 13 entries. □



PHOTO: ALBERT CHEUNG

Grade 4 to 6 Choir wins Sir James Aikins Norquay Shield

Grade 4 to 6 Choir. (Bottom Row): Sarah Stock, Sara Micflikier, Kathryn Antenbring, Susan Pritchard, Kathy Rogozinski, Alexandra Pustogorodsky, Rehana Esmail, Roberta Stevens, Jaimie VandeVyver, Sarah Carter, Lara Postl, Devan Laframboise, Jyoti Seshia, Laurene Yen, Virginia Lechman, Johanna Forster, Rebecca Halliday, Mrs. Phyllis Ilavsky. (Second Row): Hayley Nepon, Kim Ronan, Monica Bhayana, Jennifer Kennedy, Eva Jaczina, Elysssa Stelman, Alexis Cloutier, Tamara Bennett, Kristin Westdal, Kristle Tavares, Sarah Young, Martine Ferguson, Crystal Bewza, Kathryn Zahradnitzky, Joanna Manning, Emily Miller. (Third Row): Sarah Wehrle, Sarah Coyle, Michelle de Groot, Andrea Rush, Manisha Bhayana, Jennifer Stitz, Maya Seshia, Lily Tang, Sarah Lemoine, Catherine Abbott-Taylor, Ashley Gross, Sabrina Dobel, Gillian Grafton, Ashleigh Auty. (Top Row): Nicole Magne, Ryann Jessiman, Nicole Last, Kim Bjorklund, Brooke Vincent-Stafford, Freyja Arnason, Candace Chow, Cassandra Deane, Robin Westmacott, Kim Lazareck, Gabrielle Nye, Meghan Watchorn, Alicja Dalecki, Monica Kaushal, Christy Finck, Danica Levy.



PHOTO: ALBERT CHEUNG

Grade 2 and 3 Choir places second

Grade 2 and 3 Choir. (Bottom Row): Samantha Rayburn, Victoria King, Jennifer Yamamoto, Melissa Serbin, Sarah Nesbitt, Johanna Hozumi, Renata Choptiany, Tony Grafton, Christine Yurkowski, Morgan Jarvis, Dhiya Dilawri, Jenny Lee, Anna Penner, Andrea Mancini, Mrs. Phyllis Ilavsky. (Second Row): Anyesley Plueschow, Ainsley Young, Deborah Hill, Sheilah Sweatman, Amory Steek, Anna AbouZeid, Robin Matusik, Suzanne Afifi, Alara Humniski, Catherine Coffey, Katie Pelech, Jacqueline Guertin, Amanda Schimnowski, Rachel Gardner, Andrea Young, Kelsey Mills. (Third Row): Anlina Sheng, Vivian Belik, Sian Bumstead, Samantha Nisbett, Dawn Shanski, Renita Ahluwalia, Ashleigh Hall, Erin Goeres, Joan Porter, Karly Sullivan, Cecily Magne, Catherine Laing, Deena Schreyer, Jill Maxwell, Megan Armstrong-Collison. (Top Row): Ginelle Glacomin, Sarah Kerley, Dorice Tepley, Rachel Buchholz, Jessica McLachlan, Aynsley Moorhouse, Ainsley Kling, Malissa Lundgren, Darcie Levy, Erin Biddell, Jasmine Schaeffer, Maegan Rutherford, Krystyna Peterson, Lara Arnason, Aynsley Scott.

Former Headmasters re-visit BH



(Left): Mr. Brian Porter (left) poses with Former Headmaster Ted Staunton, who was on a visit to Winnipeg from his home in Montreal, where he is currently the Headmaster of Lower Canada College. (Above): Mr. Thomas Russell, Headmaster of Balmoral Hall from 1976 to 1986, and his wife Janet also visited the school this past year. L-R: Mr. Thomas Russell, Mrs. Maureen Shanski, Mrs. Janet Russell, and Mr. Brian Porter.

Students learn about environment through musical, Rana's Pond



(Above): The entire company performs in the finale of *Rana's Pond*. Frogs included: Erin Greenberg, Nicole Last, Sarah Wehrle, Brook Vincent-Stafford, Hayley Nepon, Monica Bhayana and Gabrielle Nye. In the background, L-R: Martine Ferguson, Michelle de Groot, Kathryn Antenbring, Kim Bjorklund, Ryann Jessiman, Sarah Coyle, Candace Chow, Sara Micflickier, Gillian Grafton, Sara Stock. (Right): Rana, played by Sarah Wehrle, "croaks" out a song to the audience.



Balmoral Hall School's Junior School presented an ecological musical, *Rana's Pond*, on May 2, 1991 in Richardson Hall.

The story is about a group of frogs who live in a polluted pond and with the help of a group of students, learn to protect their environment.

Rana, the frog, was played by Sarah Wehrle. Other characters included Linda Litterkid played by Sarah Coyle, C.T. Badworks - Kim Bjorklund, Miss Wright - Martine Ferguson, Gregory Goormay - Ryann Jessiman, William Board - Candace Chow, Board's Assistant - Meghan Watchorn. All leads were played by the Grade 6 class, while the Grade 4 and 5 classes performed in the chorus.

Junior School music teacher, Mrs. Phyllis Ilavsky, along with the help of Junior School staff members, put this unique production together. □

Suzanne Pinel entertains children in bilingual show



Suzanne Pinel sings to Balmoral Hall Grade 3 student, Ashleigh Hall

Suzanne Pinel, French Canadian children's entertainer, presented two shows at Balmoral Hall School on May 26 in Richardson Hall. Children from all over the city attended this bilingual concert.

This delightful show included such characters as the expressive mime, Samuel the Clown, and the English speaking puppet, Fergus. Entranced children happily sang along with Ms Pinel and Fergus, as did mothers, fathers, grandparents and teachers.

Suzanne Pinel stars in a children's television show out of Ottawa, Marie-Soleil, and performs live concerts across the country. All money raised at the concert was donated to the School.

Coach proud to work with Balmoral Hall debaters

By Linda (Miller) Martin, BH '62

Today's society is one of passive learning. We learn through passive acceptance of visual tools, such as television, movies and classroom videos. We passively accept the knowledge contained in lectures, books, newspapers, magazines and computer print-outs.

And yet, in our society the independent thinker, the analyzer, and the oral communicator is highly regarded. Universities and employers, alike, desire the individual who can communicate with others and "think for herself."

How can we at Balmoral Hall instruct our students in the art of analyzing problems and effectively communicating decisions? One of the ways is to teach our students debating/public speaking.

Each student in grades 7 to 9 is required to take a credit in Debating/Public Speaking, while grades 10 to 12 work extra-curricularly, in order to develop and perfect the following skills:

- the development of an effective speaking style;
- the ability to listen carefully and effectively;
- the ability to analyze an argument, and see its flaws and strengths;
- the development of a clear understanding of how to research a topic, and where to find information; and
- the development of leadership skills, by encouraging seniors to coach and help juniors.

All these skills are essential in the development of the individual who questions facts, who thinks logically, and who can effectively communicate ideas. However, one of the most important skills students learn is the ability to listen effectively. This skill is not only very valuable for good note-taking at university, but also for understanding what others are trying to communicate. One is therefore more able to persuade others to one's point of view.

All students, regardless of their level of academic ability, benefit from this program. After being involved in debating/

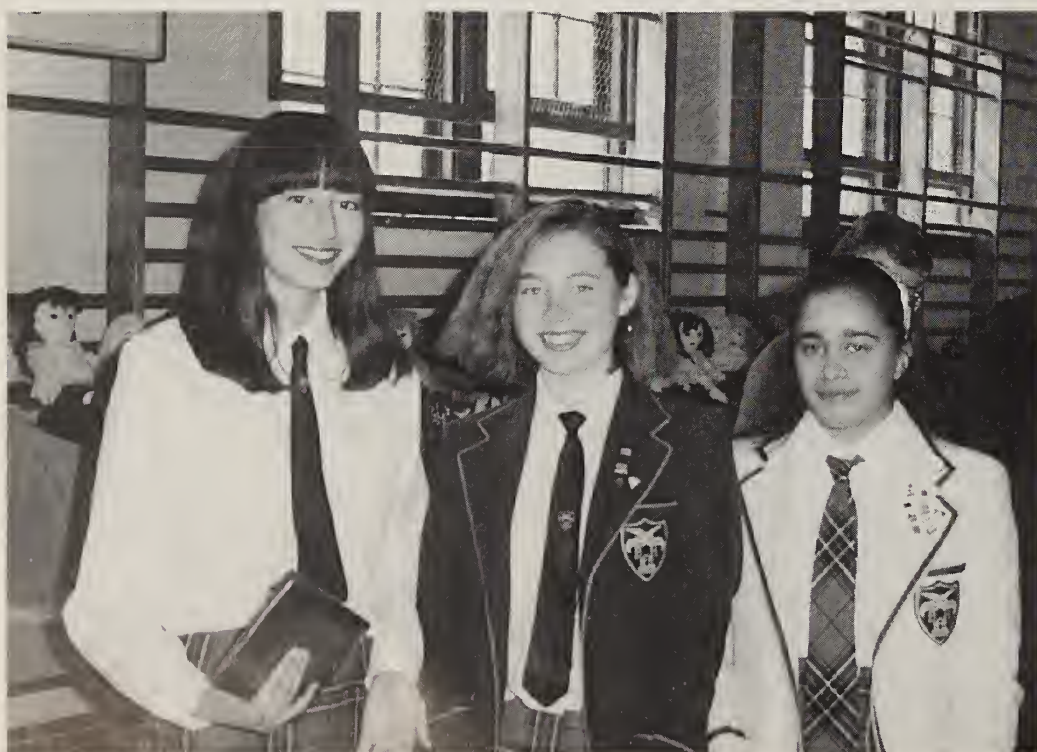
public speaking, students demonstrate improvement in various skills. It is always rewarding to watch a student start the year, able only to speak hesitantly for two minutes, and by the end of the year speak forcefully and logically for five minutes.

As the teacher, I am also rewarded by watching the students begin to question arguments and logic. However, sometimes parents do not necessarily find their daughter's new strength in this particular area quite so rewarding!

For students who desire to compete outside the school, there are many wonderful opportunities. Juniors and Seniors each have five to seven tournaments in Winnipeg each year. As a school, we always attend the International Independent Schools Public Speaking Championships. This tournament is held at different independent schools each year, and Balmoral Hall is fortunate to be chosen as host for the next tournament, October 18 to 21, 1991.

For this tournament, each school must have a team of three students, and each student must enter three of a possible four categories, of which only one category is debating. The students must, therefore, be versatile and skilled in many areas, such as drama, oratory, knowledge of current events, as well as debating.

Balmoral Hall has been attending this tournament since 1986, and out of 35



(Left): Debaters awarded. (L-R): Louise Coyle, Kim Lear and Shaista Mohammadi, the Balmoral Hall Debating Team sent to the International Independent Schools Public Speaking Tournament held in Victoria last October, were presented with awards to honour their success in this tournament. This is the same tournament that Balmoral Hall will be hosting this October.



(Left): Top debaters graduate. Debating Coach Linda Martin poses with (L-R) Seema Joshi, Head Girl Isha Khan and Adrian Hersak.

attending schools, we have placed third three times, and second once. Half of the Canadian team to the World Public Speaking Championships is chosen at this tournament, and we have sent the following students to this event in England: Rebecca McArton, 1988; Maya

Prabhu, 1989; Isha Khan, 1990; and Adrian Hersak, 1990-1991.

By competing in provincial tournaments, students may qualify for: the Westerns (Isha Khan, top Manitoban, placed fifth overall in 1990); the S. J. R. Nationals (Adrian Hersak, second place

in 1991); the World Debating Championships (Maya Prabhu, 1990); National Seminar (to be decided); and the Junior High Nationals (Louise Coyle, third place and Kim Lear, fourth place, 1990).

In the past few years, the debaters have travelled to New York, Connecticut, Toronto, South Dakota, Boston, Montreal, Victoria, and England. Each trip has exposed the girls to a new style of speaking, thinking, and living. All of this has added to their ability to adapt, to analyze, to think logically, and to speak effectively. The students have confidence and style, and shine wherever they go. I am proud of them, and proud to be seen with them. They are sought-after by universities and employers, alike.

Debating/public speaking is an integral part of the Balmoral Hall Middle and Senior School curriculum, and works well at two levels. The first level promotes participation by all students, so that they can gain important skills and acquire learning, thus enhancing their own abilities, confidence, and opportunities after graduation. The second level promotes participation in local, national and international events, offering students the opportunity to hone their skills, compete at the highest levels, and gain world experience. □



Volleyball victory

Balmoral Hall's Junior Volleyball Team defeated St. Charles in a thrilling Manitoba Catholic Schools Athletic Association 1990-91 Championship League Final at St. Mary's Academy. (Back Row L-R): Rachel Schipper, Alex Schettler, Shereen Abdel-Hadi, Wendy Campbell, Aynsley Toole, Kelly Mozol, and Kristie Micay. (Front Row L-R): Nicole Auty, Suzanne Cousineau, Carrie Moir, Sangeetha Appavoo (captain), Megan Sweatman (co-captain), Punam Mehta, Sunita Seshia, Carmyn Aleshka. Missing: Coach Cindy Melenchenko.

Prefects (1991-1992)

Senior School

Head Girl: Erin Falconer
School Captain: Anita Joshi
Sports Captain: Tammy Garrett
Head Girl Residence: Amy Edwards
Library Prefect: Mary-Beth Barker
Arts Prefect: Marcella Beaulieu

House Heads:

Ballater: Christine Snodgrass
Braemar: Tasha Betcherman
Craig Gowan: Donna Garofalo
Glen Gairn: Jane Williams

Middle School

Head Girl: Rebecca Lechman
Sports Captain: Sangeetha Appavoo



Steel Magnolias: all-female-cast play perfect choice for BH drama

Presenting an annual dramatic production is a "tradition" which began only three years ago when the class of '88 wanted to leave their mark on the School, and presented Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*.

This year's drama, liberally sprinkled with comedy overtones, was Robert Harling's teary-but-very funny *Steel Magnolias*, a play that involves a tightly-knit group of women friends. Set in Truvy's beauty salon, gossip is what they do best or as one character put it: "If you have anything bad to say about anybody, sit down right beside me."

Truvy Jones (Alex Buechel) owns the shop, in which all the action centres.

Annelle (Monica Morberg) is the new girl in town who comes to work for her. Shelby (Isha Khan) is the bride-to-be suffering from diabetes, and who is constantly fretted and fawned over by her mother, M'Lynn (Wendy Welby). Dropping by to trade barbs is the town nut Ouiser (Seema Joshi), and dishing the dirt with the group is Claree (Jennifer Lukovich), a recent widow.

These women are the steel magnolias of the title—dippy southern belles on the outside, tough as nails on the inside when called upon to face any challenge, any heartache. They talk about each other, fight with each other, make up, and cry—and they get their hair done a lot.

Steel Magnolias—smoothly directed by Audrey Greenhill—with its six person, all-female cast, was the perfect show to perform as the 1991 Balmoral Hall Senior School drama production. □

(Top Left): The cast of the B.H. production strikes the movie poster pose. L-R: Seema Joshi played the Shirley Maclaine role; Jennifer Luckovich portrayed the Olympia Dukakis part; Wendy Welby tackled Sally Field's lead; Isha Khan played Julia Roberts' Oscar-nominated part; Alex Buechel filled the Dolly Parton role and Monica Marberg played the Daryl Hannah part. (Top Right): The girls gossip at Truvy's Salon..

Second annual Arts Festival: a showcase for B. H. talent

“Arts On A Monday Evening” was held on May 13, 1991 at Balmoral Hall School. This eclectic evening included drama, dance, vocal and piano performances, as well as art displays, by Senior and Middle School students.

Master of Ceremonies, Grade 12 student, Jade Hume, hosted the evening. The festival included: two dramas - “Departures and Arrivals” by the Grade 9 Festival Players, and “Dead Serious” by students in Residence; a traditional Japanese Dance and a Japa-

nese Sword Dance by Akiko Uchiyama and Aki Tajima, an Ojibway Traditional Dance by Marcella Beaulieu, and two Chopin piano pieces by Hiroyo Sato and Mayumi Wada. As well, the Middle and Senior School Choirs performed a variety of musical selections.

A display of student art work was open for viewing before and after these performances in the Junior School area.

Arts Prefect, Julia Pouliot with teachers Lynne Axworthy, Pat Rabson, Vicki Francis, Lee Anderson and Elizabeth Bonnet helped to organize the event. □



Art and needlework on display at the Second Annual Arts Festival.



School's My Fair Lady: "Abso-bloomin'-lutely lovely"

Lerner & Loewe's *My Fair Lady*, a classic and timeless piece of musical theatre, was an overwhelming success when it opened on Broadway in 1956, and it was just as



"lovely" when Balmoral Hall's Senior School presented its Fair Lady at the Gas Station Theatre last February.

Under the talented musical direction of Pat Rabson and the skillful dramatic coaching of Vicki Francis, Rob Manson played phonetics professor Henry Higgins who transforms guttersnipe Eliza Doolittle, played by our own Adrian Hersak, into a princess, just to win a bet with Colonel Pickering (Kevin Tordiffe).

The principals received wonderful support from Mia Rabson, who played housekeeper Mrs. Pearce; Caroline Evans, as Mrs. Eynsford-Hill; and Donna Garofalo, as Mrs. Higgins.

And, once again, in something that has become a tradition in the Senior School productions, Headmaster Brian Porter made a Hitchcock-style cameo appear-

(Above Left): Headmaster Brian Porter makes a cameo appearance in the famous Ascot Races scene. (Above Right): The chorus performs with exuberance in two of the show's big production numbers. (Bottom Left): Rob Manson played the insufferable Professor Henry Higgins to Adrian Hersak's delightful Eliza Doolittle.

ance playing one of the *noblesse oblige* in the famous black & white Ascot Races scene.

Based on *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw, *My Fair Lady* won New York Tony honours in 1957, received eight Oscars in 1964, and received the enthusiastic approval of our audiences. It ranks as one of Balmoral Hall's great musical productions. □

Montreal Massacre Memorial



The Grade 12 English Class staged a memorial for the 14 female University of Montreal engineering students massacred by gunman Marc Lepine in December of 1989. Photo courtesy of Ken Gigliotti of the Winnipeg Free Press.

An international family



(Above): Students in Residence at Balmoral Hall form a truly international family. (Top Left, L-R): Hiroyo Sato, Mayumi Wada and Akiko Takeda and their first taste of snow. (Left): Mayumi Wada (left) and Tino Lo (right) take a close look at the Canadian Flag.



Enriching her Tomorrows

Phase II reaches completion!

In 1987, the Balmoral Hall School Board of Governors launched the "Enriching Her Tomorrows" Capital Campaign to ensure quality education, in a stimulating atmosphere.

The Governors believed that Balmoral Hall is charged with providing programs and an environment that will nurture all aspects of our students' development. Our School is also charged with anticipating the future needs of those students.

Accordingly, Junior School was renovated to accommodate Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten classes; Dalton

House was converted into modern classrooms for Grades 1-6, and an enlarged dining room.

For a period of time after that, the Board of Governors finalized and approved plans for the next phase of development at Balmoral Hall, another very major step in building for the future of this school.

Currently under development by Bird Construction Ltd., and under the direction of Building Chair Garry Hilderman, these new facilities, designed by Cooper Rankin Architects, include a spectacular,

sky-lit interior walkway, offering access to all new computer labs for both Junior and Senior School, a tiered, acoustically-designed music/drama room, music rooms available for private practice, an expanded Junior School library, complete with library classroom, an expanded Senior School library and a wonderful Common Room.

(Above): Artist's rendering of the new columned entrance-way, designed to enhance the pillars of Aikins House.

As well, spacious, well-equipped Science classrooms, including Chemistry, Physics and Biology/Botany labs will be ready to offer our Seniors a challenging environment. Taking advantage of our idyllic, historical site, many of the classrooms offer a panoramic view of our campus on the Assiniboine River.



(Top): Development and Alumnae Director Ruth Young tours the Botany Lab—a greenhouse connected to the new third floor Biology Lab. (Centre): Trying their hands at crafting artistic tiles are (L–R): Steve Hrousalas, member of the Board of Governors, Chair of the Capital Campaign; Cheryl Clarke, member of the Auxiliary; Maria Pona, member of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Marketing Committee. (Below): Artist's rendering of the 5 1/2-story, sky-lit interior walkway.



Enriching her Tomorrows

This new complex will serve as the academic heart of Balmoral Hall. Upon completion, B. H. students will be able to learn, study and perform in a facility that has been planned to meet both their present and future educational needs.

Slated for completion by opening day of School this fall, these facilities represent a visible manifestation of Balmoral Hall's commitment to providing the very best education possible for its students.

A Donor Recognition Plaque, honouring all those who have made this development possible, will be unveiled at the official opening of the new facilities tentatively planned for Thursday, September 26.

The next phase of this developmental plan will be the construction of a new gymnasium, and a state-of-the-art theatre. This will proceed as funds become available, and accordingly, our already successful Capital Campaign "Enriching Her Tomorrows" will continue.

The School is pleased to announce that Steve Hrousalas, member of the Board of Governors, and father of two daughters at the School—Heather entering Grade 6 and Patricia entering Grade 2—will be undertaking the Chairmanship of this next phase of our Capital Campaign.

Balmoral Hall looks forward to the ongoing support and commitment of all our constituents.

A particularly interesting project underway at the School this year was the creation of a tile feature wall, which will be mounted and displayed prominently in the new facilities.

A clay tile was handcrafted by every student enrolled in the school this year, as well as all staff, members of the Board of Governors, the Executive of the Auxiliary and the Alumnae Board. A design for this wall was created by the architects, and this

enormous undertaking has been smoothly coordinated by art teachers Elizabeth Bonnett and Lee Anderson.

Upon firing, staining and glazing, these

tiles will be ready for mounting into the design. All of the participants in this unique project look forward to the completion of the tile feature wall. □



(Right): A view of the new interior walkway from the second floor bridge.

PHOTO: ALBERT CHEUNG

In addition to academics, BH students excel

A dream on ice

Every young girl has her dreams of being the next star in Ice Capades, but Kristin Borger, a Grade 10 student at Balmoral Hall School, is working to make her dream a reality!

Kristin has been on skates since the age of four, and has taken skating lessons since the age of six. At a young age, Kristin demonstrated great ability and dedication to the art of figure skating. Through her young career as a Junior Singles figure skater, she has competed in a number of competitions. However, since last summer, Kristin has changed her focus from singles to pairs skating.

Her new partner is Steven Belanger, a 20-year old Ontario native. Training with a new partner means practice. Winter, or Summer — every day! They competed quite successfully at the Canadian Skating Championships, held in February in Saskatoon. Now, Kristin looks forward to the Junior World's.

To attain this, Kristin must go to where she can get the finest in coaching techniques, and to where she can practise with her partner. After Christmas, Kristin left her family, and her friends to attend a special Talented Athletic School Program at Thornlea Secondary School in Toronto. This type of schooling offers

young athletes flexibility in the combination of precious practice time, and academic studies. Under the coaching abilities of Joanne McLeod and Jim Blackburn, Kristin and Steven will be practising early in the morning to late into the evening, and, of course, on weekends!

The costs of training are high as well. Between lessons, skates, costumes, training, and travel, the expenses keep growing. Kristin acknowledges that her parents have been a true support system not only in the financial sense but also in every other aspect as well.

They have encouraged her to be the best she can be, but only if she continues to enjoy the sport. And, even though it means gruelling hours of practice, according to Kristin, "If you love it, you'll go through anything!"

To keep up her performance level, Kristin also performs in Amateur Ice Shows through various skating clubs. Generally, two programs are prepared for each competition. It could take from one week to a month to learn a program, depending on the choreography.

The future holds many exciting opportunities for Kristin. She would like to attend University and study Marine Biology. Eventually, she would like to turn professional and enter the exciting world of professional ice skating ... a dream come true! But, right now, it's practise, practise, practise. And, that's just the way Kristin likes it! □



Since last summer, Kristin has changed her focus from singles to pairs skating. Her new partner is Steven Belanger, a 20-year old Ontario native.



This past December, Nicolette Rieger had the privilege of performing with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company in their production of *La Bayadere*.

A passion to dance

Nicolette Rieger was born in Melville, Saskatchewan. Early dance training began with the Melville Dance and Multicultural Council, although living in a small community did not allow for comprehensive dance training.

At age 10 Nicolette was accepted into the Professional Dance Training Pro-

gram of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, and at age 12, she came to Winnipeg and began Level I of the program in 1985. She has been training for the past six years. Upon graduation from this intensive dance program, one of the best in North America, Nicolette will be able to perform as a dancer anywhere in the world.

Nicolette is a self-motivated, high-spirited and talented young woman, who loves to dance with a passion. Long hours of training, self discipline, and living in a residence situation have been taken in stride. Upon graduation from high school, she will be expected to perform up to eight hours a day perfecting her technique in *ballet pointe*, *pas de deux* and *repertoire*. She will train in Modern and Jazz dancing. Nicolette also finds time for other interests such as choreography and acting.

This past December, she had the privilege of performing with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company in their production of *La Bayadere*. It was a unique opportunity and one of the high points of her training thus far.

A special glow lights up her face when Nicolette talks about that great moment when she will make her debut as a prima ballerina. To become a part of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company is a major goal—but to dance, no matter where, is an all-consuming passion. □

A swimming success

As a member of the MANTA Swim Team, Balmoral Hall Grade 12 student, Manon Lisowski leads a busy but rewarding life.

Although Manon has been an avid swimmer all her young life, she has been swimming competitively for only the last year. Every second weekend, Manon travels to a competition somewhere in the province. Each competition varies, but it generally includes a full day and evening of competitive events and practice time.

Manon swims faithfully every day but Sunday. After a full day of academic studies, she works at the School's Extended Day Care from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. weekdays, and swims the short course of 25 metres from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. She also attends Choir practice Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m, and was in the school musical. On Saturdays, when

there is no swim meet, Manon rises at 5:00 a.m. to start training at 6:15 a.m. She begins with dry land exercises including weights, running stairs, and push ups. Then its into the water for an hour of hard swimming, usually the long course of 50 metres.

The training does pay off. She won a place on the Manitoba Team for her excellent qualifying time in the 50 metre Butterfly, her favourite event.

Manon feels that the discipline of training has strengthened not only her body, but her character. Her only regret is that she did not start competing earlier.

The future looks bright for Manon. During the summer months, she plans to become a lifeguard. Manon intends to study Marine Biology at university. She also will continue to strive for excellence in the pool, as a member of the university swim team. □



Manon Lisowski won a place on the Manitoba Team for her qualifying time in the 50 metre Butterfly, her favourite event.

Balmoral Hall bids Adieu to another successful year

A bright and beautiful afternoon was the backdrop to graduates, students, guests, and staff as they attended Closing Exercises at Westminster United Church on June 12, 1991.

A large class of forty-two graduates, resplendent in their traditional white attire and colourful flowers, walked proudly down the church aisles, ushered to their seat by Head Girl Isha Khan and School Captain Jade Hume.

Jean Pigott, Chair of the National Capital Commission, was the guest speaker. She emphasized that today's women graduates should be proud to be women and to be Canadians.

Awards were presented to Middle and Senior School students. Guests were invited back to Balmoral Hall School for the traditional Garden Party.

The Junior School Awards Ceremony took place separately at Westminster United Church on Friday, June 7, 1991.



Junior School Head Girl addresses assembly at Junior School Awards Day

Grade 6 graduate and Junior School Head Girl, Kim Bjorklund, speaks to guests during the Junior School Awards day held on Friday, June 7, 1991. This year, the Junior School held a separate Awards Day at Westminster United Church to honour the achievements of Junior School students.

(Right): The passing of the cords. Isha Khan, Head Girl 1990-1991, and new Head Girl Erin Falconer. (Below Left): Fifteen-year-old Shaista Mohammadi, the youngest ever graduate from Balmoral Hall School receives a book award from Jean Piggott. (Below Right): Jennifer Lukovich receives the University of Winnipeg Alumni Scholarship from Brian Daly.



Valedictory Address

By Isha Khan

Mrs. Pigott, Mr. Watchorn, Mr. Porter,
Teachers, Parents and Friends.

Over the years, I have given many a speech in front of Balmoral Hall, but as I stand addressing you for the last time as Head Girl of B.H., I am both honoured and saddened. A valedictory address is a farewell to the school and to the people that have fostered our feelings of respect and admiration for so many years.

Today, as I stand with one foot out the door, I am compelled to look back. Though I am eagerly anticipating the future, I am unable to walk away from Balmoral Hall without remorse.

The Winnipeg Free Press called us "bright-eyed young women with big dreams for the future," and as I look at my fellow graduates, and as I see some suppressing laughter, and some suppressing tears—I believe that this is true. "A class with character"—that's what they called us. It seems that as we grew over the years at B.H.—trouble was never very far behind us. We were always that rowdy group of young girls that could never seem to get it together.

Well guys—I guess we did it.

I think we've all mastered the art of persuasion in that a little bit of charm and sweet-talking postponed many a test date and got many a teacher talking on some completely irrelevant topic.

We've always been scolded for talking too much, but, I believe, that only adds to our vibrancy. In fact, the other day at Awards Assembly, the Grade 12 class was given a standing ovation. Unfortunately, many of us were busy talking and couldn't exactly figure out what all the clapping was for. I think that just about sums us up. A diverse group of poets, scholars, comedians and artists, actresses and athletes, we joined together in friendship and in victory.

We have learned some valuable lessons at Balmoral Hall: the derivative of cos is negative sin, Laertes was a foil to Hamlet, the thumbs up sign is also Amperes left hand rule for a Solenoid and that when the tarts are passed, you'd better take one.

We've also learned that you can't expect to do Dirty Dancing imitations on the common room table without something breaking, you can't expect all 20 of us to make it to writing class after lunch, and perhaps, most importantly, you can't expect to throw a black "afro-ed," French-speaking apple in a body bag, on the riverbank without someone getting upset - class of '91 - Colin Coulomb will return.

To our teachers—13 years ago you taught us about Pat and Mr. Mugs, how to tie shoelaces and how to spell our names. It was you who taught us that we *can* achieve anything. That there are no limits to our aspirations and no boundaries to our dreams. It was you who pushed us when we were ready to give up. You've taught us that perseverance and hard-work can be rewarding and that we must "seize the day." To all of you - we are eternally grateful. Your understanding and belief in us has been the basis for our growth as responsible young women of the world.

To our parents—as you feel pride for us today, you must also congratulate yourselves on a job well done. It was you who were there for us when we had a bad dream or a scraped knee. And, it was you who worried and waited up for us whether we wanted you to or not. You've nurtured us and comforted us and moulded us into who we are today.

Peter Ustinov wrote, "Parents are the bones on which children sharpen their teeth." Thank you does not express the magnitude of our appreciation. The one thing every parent wishes for their child is for their child to find happiness and contentment. We have been given a sense of ourselves and though we are stepping into the adult world—you've only to look at us and see that we're still your little girls.

Finally, to my fellow graduates, I believe that you *can* do anything and everything you desire. And, I know that I am richer for having known each and every one of you. We have formed ties of friendship that can never be severed. Mayumi, Akiko, Akiko, Hiroyo, Maria, A, Tina and May—keep in touch—we'll



ISHA KHAN

miss you. The comraderie and affection we share are bonds that neither time nor distance can break. You've only to look beside you to see that you have a friend. We have only to glance at each other to see the pride and mutual respect we share.

I believe that our paths have crossed for a reason. Cherish this gift for one day you will realize its value. As we all set off in our separate directions to get on with our lives—we will not forget each other for with us we take a tiny piece of one another. Whether it be a piece of advice, a fond memory or only a smile. The Dalai Lama once said, "When we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace." I wish all of you the best of luck in achieving this happiness, for I have all the faith in the world that you will.

As we leave the security of Balmoral Hall, the warmth of the common room, and the fervor of Monday morning assemblies to step into the world, we leave behind more than an institution of education. We leave you with a piece of each of us. A piece of our spirit. For Balmoral Hall is a conglomeration of each and every person who has been a part of it.

We have been given a basis for life; a launching pad for the future - and are now one step closer in achieving our dreams. Richard Bach wrote in his novel *Illusions*: "Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before we can meet again. And, meeting again after moments or lifetimes is certain for those who are friends." □

Auxiliary enhances School life

The Balmoral Hall Auxiliary is a very active parent volunteer organization, with parents assisting in a myriad of activities and events throughout the school year.

Parents' Association Board

(Formerly called Auxiliary Board)

1991-1992

Bev Afifi, President
Penny Rutherford, Past President
Marjorie Guertin, Vice-President
Jennifer King, Secretary
Brigitte Westmacott, Treasurer
Michele Young, Junior School Liaison
Madge Biddell, Library
Gail Hrousalas, Dance & Special Projects
Judith Hall, Social
Barbara Thiessen, Assistant Social
Gloria Mancini, Nearly New/Uniform
Donna Pelech, Residence
Brian Porter, Headmaster

This busy Auxiliary has raised approximately \$20,000 in funds through these activities. These funds were made available to the School for the purchase of such articles as audio visual equipment, graphing calculators, a career exploration system and physical education equipment. The Auxiliary also provided \$14,000 toward the School's scholarship and awards program this year.

This year, 16 enthusiastic and hard-working Auxiliary members managed to sell a record number of uniform items, organize the annual Western Barbecue, arrange a Christmas carolling tour with dinner for residence students, and place residence students in Balmoral Hall families' homes over the holidays. The Auxiliary recruited seventy parents to staff bingos; set up telephone committees for emergency school closure; and enjoyed a record year in the library Birthday Book Club. The Dance Committee has also



PENNY RUTHERFORD

worked many long hours preparing for the very successful Spring Ball held in May.

Two pizza lunches were organized for the students, in February and April. Next year more of these events are planned. The Auxiliary Executive would like to thank all the parents for making pizza lunches such a success. Special thanks go to Director of Food Services, Carol Wright and her staff, and to all the volunteers who assisted with the pizza lunch.

Thank you, again, to all parent volunteers who worked on the Executive, its committees and all who participated in these activities and shared in enhancing our children's school life at Balmoral Hall. □

May Ball: a cherry blossom delight

Sakura Matsuri, Japanese for Cherry Blossom Festival, was the enchanting theme for the Balmoral Hall Spring Ball, held Friday, May 3 at the Radisson Hotel.

The evening was an immense success in every way. And, most importantly, the hard-working efforts of a dedicated committee, co-chaired by Bev Afifi and Gail Hrousalas, created a wonderful event. The Cherry Blossom motif was breathtaking, and a special thank-you goes to Michelle Abbott, Chair of the Decorating Committee, for an outstanding effort. Michelle also arranged for the Japanese dancers who entertained after dinner.

The Radisson cooperated fully, "loaning" us Executive Chef Jeff Gill, who presented a most delicious and elegant meal.

The band, "Revival," created a lively



Playing the Crowd. (L-R): John Nesbitt, Bill Watchorn, Steve Hrousalas, Charlie Coffey, Mel Yurkowski and John Shanski—a new kind of harmony?

and fun atmosphere for the dancing.

The Auxiliary is most delighted to report a profit of \$10,800.00 from the dance and raffle. Steve Hrousalas, on behalf of the Fund-Raising Committee of the Board of Governors did an outstanding job in presenting a fabulous array of items for auction. The Board will realize about \$18,000.00 for this effort.

Sincere thanks to our 233 guests and to all those who donated to the auction. Without you we couldn't have done it! □

(Right): L-R: Much to the the delight of May Ball guests, Gail Hrousalas, Maureen Watchorn and Michelle Abbott "get in on the act" with band members from the group Revival. (Below): The people who make it happen! Deborah Waller (reservations), Kathy Hill (tickets); Gail Hrousalas (co-chair); Jennifer King (tickets), Barb Thiessen (raffle & auction); Patty De Fehr (patrons); Michelle Abbott (decorating); Anne Coffey (treasurer); Gail Nesbitt (secretary); and Bev Afifi (co-chair). Missing: Irene Aleshka (raffle & auction).



Seeking the harbour of the 1990s

*"When a man does not know
what harbour he is making for,
no wind is the right wind!"*

Seneca (4 B. C. – A. D. 65)

By Brian Porter

The counsel of Seneca is still valid today, and at Balmoral Hall we're concentrating hard on knowing what "harbour" we're making for today and in the future.

Following on the heels of the 1987 Task Force 2000, and a very successful, *but on-going(!)*, Capital Campaign, "Enriching Her Tomorrows," incredible facilities are materializing before my eyes as I sit here in my office in Aikins House; yes, that's Aikins House!

Given the substantial demolition of a significant part of the School this summer, all administrative offices are being housed on the ground floor of Aikins House, a harkening back to a former era, when the School *was* Aikins House and not the Headmaster's home.

Perhaps only fellow Heads can appreciate what it means to get even closer to your work! With the anticipated completion of our facilities our "harbour," at least physically, is rapidly taking shape this summer.

But bricks and mortar do not a school make—nor a complete "harbour!" For the past two years, the School has been further defining itself beyond its statement of purpose, its mission. The year 1989–90 involved re-defining "The B.H. Education," and these goals were adopted as School policy by the Board of Governors in March, 1990.

The next phase of our introspection was an appraisal of what we actually are accomplishing—an audit of our School. This past academic year, the School undertook an internal self-evaluation.

The Steering Committee, capably Chaired by the Head of Junior School, Diane Bieber, and comprised of Lynne Axworthy, Director of Studies, Bob Cain, now Science Department Head, and Pam McGhie, Director of Admissions, was

faced with the formidable task of conducting an internal self-evaluation of all aspects of Balmoral Hall School, from residence life to business practices, to the curriculum. All constituents of B.H. participated by staffing committees, discussing issues, and producing a series of reports and recommendations. An extensive Parent Survey, covering all aspects of B.H. life, was conducted by the Headmaster.

The next step after this exhaustive internal evaluation, was to conduct an external evaluation. It was to the Canadian Educational Standards Institute that B.H. turned for this undertaking. The broad purposes of CESI are to develop and promote educational standards, and to provide responsible institutional and program evaluation and accreditation. It aims to encourage the highest educational standards, while recognizing the independence and integrity of the individual accredited Institute schools.

CESI recruited some of the finest professionals from Independent Schools across Canada to evaluate B.H., and included the Manitoba Government's Mr. Frank Neufeld, who evaluates Manitoba's independent schools. After having reviewed for four weeks our internal self-evaluation report, including an extensive documentation of our curriculum, and the B.H. Parents' Survey, the CESI Committee arrived for four intensive days of evaluation. It was an exhaustive process! The Committee interviewed individuals as well as parents, alumnae, teachers, administrators, the Board, and students... in the last case, without a teacher in sight! Suffice it to say, that the Committee was impressed with B.H. One CESI Committee Member later wrote:

"I certainly had the opportunity to feel the pulse of the School and observe all aspects of your program despite the short time frame....The experience was exhausting yet invigorating and I will always



CESI Evaluation Team Members. (Seated, L–R): Andrea Pennells, Marlene Elliot, Rouviere Ritson, Mary Jane Macdonald. (Standing, L–R): Lynne Axworthy, Pam McGhie, Frank Neufeld, Graham Steele, Jane Wightman, Robert Mee, Rodger Henderson, Bob Cain and Diane Bieber.

have fond memories of Balmoral Hall School. Although I enjoyed meeting with all constituents at B.H., our meeting in the Library with the girls, and the Junior School assembly, were the highlights of my visit.

Although the CESI evaluation process is most comprehensive, I believe Balmoral Hall School is worthy of accreditation based on two of my own personal observations:

1. The students are very happy at B.H. and proud of their School.
2. I would not hesitate to send my own children to B.H., except I have two sons!"

The Final Report of the CESI Committee did make ninety-four recommendations covering all aspects of B.H. life, many of which were those suggestions put forward by the B.H. internal evaluation report—a wonderful testimony to the objectivity and thoroughness of our own Steering Committee. Incidentally, these reports are available to those who would like to peruse them at B.H.; please drop by the Library if you are interested.

Now, as we enter the 1991–'92 school year, B.H. can describe its "harbour!" Our planning teams will soon be in action. To continue Seneca's metaphor, watch out for the "wind," as well as where it takes us! □

Past-present tradition

By Jennifer (Cox) Mowat, BH '74
Alumnae President

We are approaching an important milestone in the history and development of Balmoral Hall—a milestone which reflects on a rich heritage and which promises a challenging future.

The 1991-1992 academic year marks the 90th birthday of the founding of the school—a time to remember and reflect not just on Balmoral Hall but on each of the founding schools: Havergal Ladies College, Riverbend School for Girls, and Rupert's Land College.

The 1991-1992 academic year also marks the opening of the new school facilities as Balmoral Hall prepares to face the challenges of the future.

With this exciting time ahead for the school, the Alumnae continues to strive to contribute to the school's strength and perspective.

Since our rebirth as an association in 1984, and our very successful Reunion '87, the Alumnae have been working hard to establish ourselves as a vital organization—one which not only facilitates the friendships of former students and staff, but also makes a difference to current students in working with the school in achieving its goal of providing a high quality environment for the education of women.

As *The Portal* continues on its informative tradition, it provides a forum for alumnae and former staff to keep in touch with each other, and with school activities. That intertwining of past and present solidifies the fabric and tradition that is Balmoral Hall.

The continuation of the Alumnae Dinner as an annual fall event has also provided an avenue through which to continue to strengthen those bonds. The Third Annual Dinner was held on October 4, 1990 at Breezy Bend Country Club with Winnipeg alums, school staff,



JENNIFER (COX) MOWAT

Grade 12s and their mothers in attendance.

Our Alumnae Association, however, is not solely Winnipeg based. We realize how important it is to maintain links with those out of town constituents in a person to person way whenever that is possible.

Over the last few years the Headmaster and several alums have travelled across the country meeting in major cities with alumnae to share information about the current school program as well as its future direction.

We are proud to be involved in yearly school-based activities such as Careers' Day in the Senior School, and the Women in Science and Math symposium in the Junior School. This past year many alumnae came back to school to share the expertise they have in their chosen field with interested students. Our professional base as alums is vast and inspiring, and the commitment of alumnae to act as mentors again brings cohesiveness to our past-present tradition. The Annual Alumnae Mother-Daughter Tea for the

graduating class hosted each June by our Association also strengthens those bonds.

Our Alumnae Association currently has three members on the School's Board of Governors and we are well represented on several of the Board's committees: Finance, Scholarship and Bursary, Fund-raising and Residence. As well we continue to volunteer our time and expertise on *The Portal* Editorial Board and the Archival Committee. We are truly proud that Ditte Lansky Cloutier '66, a Past President of the Alumnae Board and mother of girls at the school, becomes the first female Chair of the Board of Governors in September of this year.

The most evident example of Alumnae support at Balmoral Hall continues to be the scholarship program in grades 7 to 12. Renamed recently after former headmistresses of the four schools, these scholarships offer substantial support to girls in the Middle and Senior School, and continue to be funded through dedicated and hardworking volunteers.

As we go forward next year and prepare for a year of celebration in the school's history—the 90th birthday and the opening of new school facilities—we, as alums, can only be proud of our interest and commitment. The Alumnae Association is actively involved in planning to honour this milestone both through on-going school based activities throughout the year, as well as a Birthday Celebration Weekend in May of '92.

We have given generously to the Capital Campaign which has enabled the future vision to become reality, and we look forward to many alums returning to school to celebrate this milestone. It will be a time when, in the company of good friends, we can look back with pride, and look forward with anticipation. □

Balmoral Hall celebrates 90 years of young women's education

It's been 90 years in the making! Now, its time to celebrate Balmoral Hall's 90th Birthday, marking almost a century of superb women's education in Manitoba.

Balmoral Hall welcomes back Havergalians, Rupes, Riverbenders, and B.H.'ers, past parents, past staff and friends. Welcome back to a weekend of reunion and remembrance, and the opportunity to join in the energy of Balmoral Hall's bright and envisioned future.

This wonderful weekend will take place May 1, 2 and 3, 1992.

However, many special events will occur throughout the school year, beginning September 1991.

The 90th Birthday Committee, co-chaired by Marsha Cowan (Board of Governor and Parent), and Carole Ann (Cory) Baron, B.H. '59, (Parent and Alumna), is in the midst of great plans for this special weekend, which will include many exciting events for all constituents of the school.

Some of the events planned include a huge birthday party for all the students to be held on Friday afternoon, May 1 on the school grounds.

On Saturday, a variety of daytime activities are planned, culminating in a 90th Birthday Dinner and Dance to be showcased in the new Balmoral Hall building. A tea and reception is scheduled for Sun-

day afternoon. More information about this celebratory weekend will be upcoming this fall.

Phase II of the Building Campaign will also be completed. All are welcome to see these new, innovative developments.

Balmoral Hall School looks forward to the 21st century with eagerness and confidence, as did the educational pioneers of our founding school, Havergal, who, in 1901 faced undauntingly the many challenges put before them.

Please help us make this celebration a success, and ensure that the future of Balmoral Hall School continues to attain the highest goals in women's education.

□



90th Birthday slogan unveiled

The 90th Birthday Public Relations Committee is proud of the new slogan created in celebration of Balmoral Hall's birthday. The slogan, "The Spirit of Excellence," met the criteria of the Committee, reflecting the ideal of a Balmoral Hall education, and incorporating the traditional values of the past, as well as the aspirations of the future. Happy Birthday, B. H.!

Alumnae Board 1991-1992

- Jennifer (Cox) Mowat, BH '74,
President
- Aynsley Hinchliffe, BH '83
Vice-President
- Jocelyn Peifer, BH '80, Treasurer
- Carole Ann (Cory) Baron, BH '59
- Ashleigh Everett, BH '74
- Elaine (McInnes) Finnbogason, Riv '49
- Heather Hinchliffe, BH '81
- Tannis (Leach) Nuttall, BH '83
- Donnie McInnes, BH '83
- Cathy (Coughlin) Thiessen, BH '78
- Joan (Rankin) Richardson, BH '69
- Karen (Richardson) Somers, BH '74
Ex-Officio
- Brian Porter, Honourary President
- Ditte (Lansky) Cloutier, BH '66,
Past President
- Ruth Young, Director of Development
& Alumnae
- Linda (Leach) Radcliffe, BH '63

Alumnae Tea: the tradition continues

The Balmoral Hall School flag was seen on the flagpole of a Wellington Crescent home this year to welcome guests to the Annual Alumnae Tea.

Due to the construction at Balmoral Hall School, the tradition carried on off-campus through the courtesy of Alumna Judy Munro Jessiman '60 (Daughter Heather Jessiman was the Head Girl and Valedictorian of last year's graduating class).

Approximately 100 guests, including 42 graduates, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, alumnae and staff, gathered in this beautiful home to enjoy a feast of sandwiches, dainties, punch and, of course, tea and coffee.

Greeting at the door were Judy Jessiman, Ruth Young, Director of Development & Alumnae, and Jennifer Mowat, President of the Alumnae Association, who also presented gifts to each graduate of 1991.

Mrs. Ditte Cloutier, Past President of the Alumnae Association and incoming Chairman of the Board of Governors, formally welcomed the graduating class of 1991 into the Alumnae Association. She asked that they please keep in touch through their class representatives Ardyth De Fehr and Jennifer Baron. Mrs. Cloutier also introduced a very special speaker - Mrs. Barbara Hamon Aldous.

Mrs. Aldous, a Rupert's Land Alumna



(Above): New Alumnae welcomed. L-R: Kathryn Aldous, Tina Lo, May Cheung, and Amanda Gyles, official new members of the Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association, Class of '91. (Below): Tannis (Leach) Nuttall '83 and Anynsley Hinchliffe '80 (Alumnae Board Members) share a moment with Judy (Munro) Jessiman '60. (Bottom): Mrs. Dime (Aikins) Riley, Riverbend '36 and Dr. Alice Cheatley (Royal Winnipeg Ballet School Liaison) enjoy tea and conversation.

of 1939, whose granddaughter, Kathryn Aldous, is a graduating student, gave a poignant speech about what it is that connects all Balmoral Hall alumnae. She emphasized the importance of the School, and how we must keep our connections alive for future Balmoral Hall graduates.

Two graduates of the class of 1991 are daughters of Alumnae. They are Jennifer Baron, daughter of Carole Ann (Cory) Baron '59, and Kathryn Young, daughter of Diana (Duncan) Young '55.

Guests were served by Alumnae Board Members: Joan Rankin Richardson '69, Elaine McInnes Finnbogason '49, Heather Hinchliffe '81, Aynsley Hinchliffe '83, Tannis (Leach) Nuttall '83, and Jocelyn Peifer '80. Mrs. Jill Porter, wife of Headmaster, Mr. Brian Porter, honoured the tea by pouring tea and coffee.

Special guests at the tea included: Miss Nellie Lucas, Mrs. Dorothy Guest and her daughter Susan (Guest) Curry '65, of Montreal, Dr. Alice Cheatley, and Mrs. Dime Riley.

The following day, the graduating students continued another Balmoral Hall tradition, leaving their mark with the school during the handprinting ceremony held behind Aikins House. □



All in the Family. Carole Anne (Cory) Baron BH '59, poses with graduating daughter, Jennifer, at the Alumnae Tea.



Alumnae share memories with Grade 2 students

A Grade 2 project about the history of Balmoral Hall School brought alumnae from Havergal, Rupert's Land, Riverbend, and Balmoral Hall together for afternoon tea at Aikins House.

The project originated with Grade 2 Teacher Heather Baxter Naughten, and involved written correspondence between students and alumnae who represented various periods of Balmoral Hall's history. The students were very curious to know what it was like to go to school during these periods of time.

The class invited those alumnae correspondents residing in Winnipeg to after-



(Below): Mrs. Barbara (Hamon) Aldous, Rupert's Land '39, shares her memories with (L-R) Andrea Young, Vivian Belik and Cecily Magne. (Bottom): Carolyn (Dowler) Graham, Riverbend '49, examines the projects of Vivian Belik and Christine Yurkowski.

noon tea, and to view a presentation the Grade 2s had prepared, based on their research. This entertaining performance included recitations, anecdotes, and the students modelling vintage uniforms of all the schools, (bloomers and all).

The Grade 2 class were thrilled to actually meet their "pen pals," and their very special guests seemed equally delighted. □



(Above Left): Miss Nellie Lucas, Rupert's Land and Balmoral Hall staff member, reminisces with Katie Brownell about life at the two schools. (Above Right): Jolly Fraser, Havergal '20, discusses school life in her day with pen pal, Megan Armstrong.



Making their mark

The Class of 1991 carefully make their final, lasting impression with Balmoral Hall School during the traditional handprinting ceremony, which took place during Closing Exercises Week.

Alumnae return for Third Annual Alumnae Dinner

Alumnae in Manitoba, north-western Ontario, and surrounding areas, as well as alumnae who were in celebrating class years were invited to attend the third Annual Alumnae Dinner held at the Breezy Bend Country Club in October 1990.

While renewing acquaintances, alumnae also enjoyed a display of memorabilia, a beautiful dinner, and an enlightening talk about the Soviet lifestyle given

by guest speaker, Dianne Rinehart, Moscow Correspondent for *U.S. News and World Report*. Ms Rinehart also addressed the Middle and Senior School students at an afternoon assembly at the school.

Alumnae from Riverbend, Rupert's Land, as well as Balmoral Hall attended the event. Grade 12 students were guests of the Alumnae and the School.

Aynsley Hinchliffe '83 and Jocelyn Peifer '80, co-chaired the event. □



(Right): Guest Speaker Dianne Rinehart, Moscow Correspondent for U. S. News and World Report. (Left): Lynne Axworthy, Director of Studies (left), converses with Gail (Allman) Leach '59. (Below): Elaine (McInnes) Finnbogason, Riverbend '49, Carolyn (Dowler) Graham, Riverbend '49, and Gert (More) Vogan, Riverbend, '48, catch up on news.





Linda (Leach) Radcliffe

BH “lifer” brings new life to Alumnae Association

The Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association is a vital and important part of the school today. But its latest resurrection really occurred only about seven years ago, and happened principally because of the efforts of one individual: Linda Radcliffe. However, she will be the first to tell you that it took the efforts of many others behind-the-scenes to help in the re-birth of the Alumnae Department, with Linda as its first Executive Director.

Just as the Alumnae Association is inte-

gral to Balmoral Hall, Balmoral Hall has been an integral part of Linda Radcliffe's life, despite her having graduated 28 years ago, in 1963. Her involvement intensified a hundred fold when, one day in 1984, she received a massive box of papers, letters and photos from Gwen Murrell- Wright, Headmistress of the school in the '50s and '60s.

"Included in this box," Linda recalls, "was one of the headmistress's terse, no-nonsense illegible notes that simply said: 'Linda, do something about these please.'"

A month later I received a phone call from her. 'Well, Linda, have you organized the Alumnae files yet?' I hadn't."

Three weeks later, Gwen Murrell-Wright died; Linda Radcliffe made a commitment to her wishes. Today, the Balmoral Hall Alumnae is a thriving, driving force at Balmoral Hall.

(Above): Linda (Leach) Radcliffe (back row, fourth from left) graduated from Balmoral Hall in June 1963.

"I had a very close, personal relationship with Gwen Murrell- Wright," Linda says, adding that when she was in grade nine, the headmistress spent a number of months in her home recuperating from an illness. "During that period Miss Sharman and Mrs. McEwen became temporary co-principals. And I became the message carrier, delivering notes, almost daily, to Miss Sharman from Miss Murrell-Wright telling her how to run the school."

Linda credits Miss Sharman and Nellie Lucas with the relative ease of changing the alumnae register to an efficient computerized system. "During the '50s and '60s, they kept the names and addresses of hundreds of alumnae on recipe cards."

Continuing with her recollections of Miss Sharman, whose death at age 92 was announced in the first issue of *The Portal*, Linda adds:

"Miss Sharman was an older teacher,

who always wore a black academic gown, with her braided hair up. My first day in Kindergarten, she heard me crying and said 'What's the matter? Don't worry, you'll come to love this place.' I've always remembered that moment, and I certainly did come to love *this place!*"

Still looking back on the time she was a student, Linda says "the naughty things back then certainly don't seem so naughty now. The bad things girls did then seem so much safer than the range of 'naughties' today. Then, it was the odd girl who smoked cigarettes, or a friend of a friend who dipped into the lemon gin. Now....' Her thought trails off as if finishing it seems unnecessary.

Linda attended Balmoral Hall from 1949 to 1963. She describes herself as a school "lifer," having spent 14 years at B.H., many of them as a weekly boarder, as her parents travelled extensively. Her father, A. Searle Leach, was the Chairman of the Board of Governors from 1958 to 1961. Upon graduation, Linda

was the recipient of the Elizabeth Patton Memorial Shield for most all- round student. In addition to being Balmoral Hall's first Executive Director of the B.H. Alumnae, she was Honourary Co-Chair, Alumnae Division, of the "Enriching Her Tomorrows" Capital Campaign and currently serves on the editorial board of *The Portal*.

Her fierce dedication to independent schools is also reflected in her many involvements in St. John's Ravenscourt School, where her sons attend. She serves on its Nominating, Lower School and Finance Committees, as well as having been a member of the Executive of the Board of Governors.

Being involved in independent schools is in "the genetic code," she says. "I strongly believe in the independent school system as an important option for

(Below): Linda Radcliffe (second from left, front row) in her Kindergarten class in 1950.



families. There has to be an alternative for people. The independent school is more focussed on the challenges at hand, and provides a great opportunity for students to shine."

Linda believes, however, that a strong independent school can be even stronger with a hard-working Alumnae Association. Being so involved with Balmoral Hall School made her a natural choice to help the Alumnae Department in its formative years, and its accomplishments, in a very short time, were impressive. In three years the Association:

- implemented a computerized data bank of 2,000 former staff and students;
- initiated a system of class reps for each alumnae year from 1950 to 1987;
- assisted the school with its ongoing fundraising campaign;
- published a bi-annual newsletter, which has since been incorporated into *The Portal*;
- organized Reunion '87, which will always remain a milestone in the history of Balmoral Hall.

When Linda Radcliffe delivered her final Alumnae Director's Report to the Board of Governors on June 4, 1987, she included a "wish list" for the B.H. Alumnae. Linda wishes:

- That every living alum, who has not yet been found, would hear that Balmoral Hall wants her address, and she would then decide to touch base with us.
- That each and every alum would make a personal commitment to find five "lost" alums.
- That the class rep system—the grass roots of the alumnae—would become more vital.

Her "wishes" are as relevant today as they were then.

Linda sees a vital role for every alum to play in the future of Balmoral Hall. "We're needed to promote the school for all its worth. This is a school that's rich in education; rich with heritage. We're needed to track down former classmates and cohorts. And we're needed to support the school financially through annual contributions and the capital campaign. That should be our commitment to independent schools," says Linda.

However, she adds: "If Balmoral Hall



is to be on the cutting edge of education, change must be constant. We alums must not stand in the way. Each alum has to break down her myths about Balmoral Hall and not allow these myths—which we all have—to get in the way of progress."

When Linda first passed through the portals of Balmoral Hall, she says she was instilled with a sense that "I could be whatever I wanted to be, but there was not specific career guidance. I wasn't aware of what options existed. This was partly due to the era. One of the challenges for young women today is to know what options they have, what responsibilities

they have and what unique and exciting opportunities they have. But they can't have that until they know the essence of themselves. Each girl must have a strong sense of self. Balmoral Hall helps every girl to achieve that." □

(Above): Budding ballerinas rehearse on the School grounds (1955). L-R: Lynn Foliott, Nora Baker, Brenda LeBeau, Jill Leighton, Joanne Sutherland, Sandra Vincent, Bliss Trafton, Linda (Leach) Radcliffe, and Joan Smerchanski. (Below): Putting the students through their paces at the 1961 Sports Day.



Where they are, and what they're doing

RIVERBEND

Marigold Mann, '42, writes she is now retired, and loves it. This past year she has toured old houses in Charleston and Savannah, travelled to Rome, and toured Europe three times. She plans to travel to South America. She sees **Sister Rosa Rayner** about once a year, and mentioned that she loves being in Yorkshire, England, again. She received a letter from **Barbara Ann (King) Pheloung, '42**, who is now running a centre for people with reading disabilities.



Carolyn Dowler Reid Graham, Riverbend '49, poses with her Teddy "Bonnie Balmoral" at The Children's Hospital Research Foundation's Annual Teddy Bear Picnic held in the Spring of 1989.

Jennifer McQueen, '48, has been appointed Canada's High Commissioner to Jamaica, Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands.

RUPERT'S LAND

Aileen (Dickinson) Duck, '43, writes that she and her husband have retired back to their roots in Yorkshire, England.

Janet (Cameron) Matthews, '48, announced the birth of her seventh grandchild, Justin Thomas, to her son Cam and wife Dawn on January 4, 1990 in Edmonton Alberta.



Class of 1966 celebrates 25 years!

(Backrow, L-R): Jane (Stephenson) Gustavson, Teddi (Wheeler) Sweatman, Zivia Linder, Susan Bracken, and Cathi (Vivian) Hill. (Seated, L-R): Gwen (McQuade) Kalansky, Terry (Rogers) Miller, Ditte (Lansky) Cloutier, Elaine (Golumbia) Stitz, and Nancy (Sym) Hawrysh.

Dr. Judith (Bole) Roepke, is the Professor of Nutrition in Home Economics and the Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Faculty Development at Ball State University, in Indiana.

Mary Tredennick, '50, is enjoying a term at Rugby School teaching Latin and Greek. She would like to contact any of her former school mates at Rupert's Land who were in Grade 7 in 1944-45.

BALMORAL HALL

Evadne (Ward) Benson, '63, was awarded an Award of Merit by the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario for her musical revue, "RN (Real Nurse)."

Susan (Guest) Curry, '65, was appointed to the Canada Council.

Pat (Glover) Bovey '66, has been appointed to the Canada Council.

Judith Dowler '66, writes she is still working at Statistics Canada for the Canadian Centre for Health Information. She also a member of the Executive of the United Way of Ottawa Carleton and a member of the Executive of Causeway (psychiatric rehabilitation facility).

Elsbeth (Dempster) Paulin '67, is working part time as a VON in Ottawa, and enjoying her little girl, Hilary. Previously, she worked as a nurse in several departments at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto including a job as an Intensive Care Unit Nurse and as a Head Nurse in the Gastrointestinal Unit.

Cathy Pennock '67, had a baby boy, Alexander Rupert Douglas Pennock, in August 1990 in Vancouver.

Nancy (Strah) Sillers, '67, is interested in finding out what some of her friends are doing now. Namely: **Patricia Howison, Lisa Shore, Kirby Smith, Sheri Cohen and Leslie Riley.**

Martha (Pennock) Morrison, '70, and husband, Brent, announce the birth of their daughter, Kathleen Elizabeth Pennock Morrison in August 1990 in Victoria.

Marla (Klassen) Napper, '74, had her third son, Patrick Shea, in February, 1991. He is brother to Taurean and Colin.

Brigitte Berezney, '75, writes that after a varied career as a pilot, broker's assistant, and a student in air traffic control; she is currently working as a legal secretary at Baker & McKenzie and is thoroughly enjoying it. She also mentions she would like to get in touch with her fellow classmates.

Judy (Perepeluk) Burrows, '77, writes that she has finally reached civilization. In September '89, Judy started a C & I Sales & Marketing course at Red River Community College in Winnipeg, while husband, Dave, was on a French Training Course with the RCMP. Son, Lee, attended the Junior Kindergarten at Balmoral Hall this past year.

Mary Grace (Ashdown) Durst, '78, had her first child, a girl Kendall Langlois Ashdown Durst on January 9, 1991. This is the sixth grandchild for **Ruby (Benidickson) Ashdown, Riverbend '39**.

Elizabeth (McDonald) Gage, '78, is the Marketing Promotions Manager at CKY-TV, Winnipeg.

Banu Berker, '79, is completing her Masters in Graphic Design at the University of Virginia Commonwealth.

Christy (Coughlin) Bangen, '79, was married on May 4, 1991, and will reside in Calgary.

Katina (Ross) Sudermann, '79, was married in August 1990.

Mary (Waters) Hrichishen, '80, is now living in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. She and husband, Jim, are pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, William Christopher John, on October 19, 1989. Mary writes that she is currently teaching at the Yellowknife Montessori School, and is enjoying life in the North.

Jane Kellock, '80, is still living in Edmonton where she works as a sales representative for Mead Johnson. She was married in May '89, and is expecting a child in May '91.

Nicola (Murray) Tory, '80, was married in June 1989 in London, England. She works as an Investment Manager for a venture capital company in London, where she has lived for five years.

Judi (Green) Gannon, '81, is married to a teacher and resides in Ignace, Ontario where she works as the Business Officer for the Dryden Board of Education.

Ariel Tybel Gurvey, '81, graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.Sc. (Hons.) Physics. In December, 1990, she received her M.Sc. in Medical Nuclear Physics from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

Gillian (McDonald) Quinn, '82, is the Assistant Manager of the Hyatt Regency in Denver, Colorado.

Jennifer Balon, '83, writes she is no longer employed with Dupont, and has accepted a position as a Chemical Engineer, product development, with Kimberly Clark in Mississauga.

(Editor's note: Apologies go to Jennifer. Last issue we referred to her degree in English when it should have been Engineering.)

Julia Kwok, '83, is still working for Hong Kong Telecommunications. After a two year training period that ended in May '89, she was promoted to Project Engineer.

Mary Lea Horbay, '84, is the Special Events Coordinator at the Toronto Skydome.

Heidi McDonald, '84, is a researcher with the Federal Government.

Alexandra (Regier) Watson, '84, is now married and living in Edinburgh, Scotland. She is working as a legal secretary but will be starting law this year. She writes, "My mother **Jane (Mathewson) Regier, '56** lives with my father and my brother Matthew, in Vancouver, British Columbia."

Anna Lisa Cohen '85, graduated from York University in June 1991, with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, majoring in Dance. She is currently performing with several different dance companies.



1990 Graduate and the first Arts Prefect of Balmoral Hall, Maya Prabhu poses in front of the quilt made with love by Balmoral Hall students in honour of retiring teacher, Jo Hewitt-Nichol, during the Arts Festival held in May 1990. Maya has since gone on to study at Harvard University. Congratulations to Maya, also, for being selected and honoured to be the delegate from the Forum For Young Canadians to participate in the 1991 session of a Presidential Classroom for Young Americans in Washington, D. C.

Kristine Banerjee, '86, is taking Speech Therapy at the University of North Dakota.

Andrea Baillie, '87, is in her last year of English Honours and was accepted into a Creative Writing course at the University of Saskatoon.

Susan Rich, '87, graduated from McGill University with a Political Science Degree.

Jennifer Hill, '88, writes: "Since leaving school, I have been working full-time to raise money for University." After taking night courses in preparation for school, she entered a two-year Psychiatric Nursing program in Regina. After graduating, she would like to move to Alberta to work.

Christine Hinchliffe '88, graduated in June 1991 from Dalhousie University with an Arts Degree in American History.

Patti Kostuchuk, '88, is currently in first year Commerce at the University of British Columbia.



Aynsley Hinchliffe, Alumnae Vice-Chair, introduces Guest Speaker Rosemary Vodrey during Careers Day 1990

Heather McDonald, '88, is in her second year Business at the University of Western Ontario.

Mekhul Ramgoolam, '89, writes that she is in her second year in the Faculty of Arts at Bishop's University in Quebec where she hopes it will lead to a career in Journalism, Broadcasting or Law.

Katerie Cree '90, was awarded the "Prince Edward Award" by Premier Gary Filmon for demonstrating exceptional levels of talent, commitment and achievement in her dance studies with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School Professional Division during the Ballet School's 20th Anniversary held in June, 1991.

Maya Prabhu '90, was selected and honoured to be the delegate from the Forum For Young Canadians to participate in the 1991 Session of a Presidential Classroom for Young Americans in Washington, D.C.

Mira Sahay '90, made her debut singing performance at The Winnipeg Folk Festival in July 1991.

STAFF

Marion (Hijmans) van Assendelft, writes that she taught at Balmoral Hall School from 1964 to 1970 (with a one-year break), Latin, French, a bit of History, and introduced Greek. She moved to the United States in 1970, and re-

turned to the Netherlands in 1972. She attained a Ph.D in 1976 and has since been teaching Latin and Greek in a "classical gymnasium" in Groningen. She has co-authored a series of Latin text books for schools, some of which may be published in England and the U.S. before too long.



Alumnae Ashleigh Everett '74, Careers Day guest, shares her career experiences in finance with students.

Please Remember

THE "BIRTHDAY WEEKEND"

MAY 1, 2 & 3, 1992

Balmoral Hall welcomes back Havergalians, Rupes, Riverbenders and BH'ers, as well as past parents, past staff and friends to a weekend of reunion and celebration.

PLEASE MARK IT ON YOUR CALENDAR. MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.

Forty-two students graduated from Balmoral Hall School in June, 1991. Almost 100 percent of these graduates are going on to further their studies in the fall. A large number of students will be attending the University of Manitoba in September.

They include: **Kathryn Aldous** – Sciences; **Liliana Cordova** – Sciences; **Ardyth De Fehr** – Arts; **Amanda Gyles** – Sciences; **Shamona Harnett** – Arts; **Yasmin Hosain** – Sciences; **Seema Joshi** – Arts & Sciences; **Isha Khan** – Arts & Sciences; **Ranya Khan** – Sciences; **Manon Lisowski** – Arts & Sciences; **Tino Lo** – Sciences; **Monica Morberg** – Fine Arts; **Carrie Shenkarow** – Arts; **Kathleen Thompson** – Fine Arts; **Wendy Welby** – Sciences.

Alexandra Buechel plans to attend either the University of Manitoba or the University of Winnipeg.

Helen Lee may attend either the University of Manitoba or study music/photography at Sturgeon Creek Secondary School.

Alex Mercury hopes to study in the Arts Program at either the University of Victoria or the University of Manitoba this fall.

Angela Wong will study sciences at either the University of Manitoba or Ottawa.

Jennifer Baron will study Arts at the University of Western Ontario.

Jodie Breneman will attend the Centennial College of Applied Arts and Technology in Toronto to study Fashion Merchandising.

May Cheung will enter the Science program at the University of Toronto.

Megan Dodds will study Journalism at Carleton University.

Katie Florentine will spend a year studying in France.

Adrian Hersak intends to study at the University of North Dakota entering the Aviation program.

Sarah Hoole is moving to Banff for a year.

Jade Hume will enter Naval Engineering at the University College in London, England.

Amy Johnson will enter Queen's University to study Honours Science.

Kerri Kaprowy has been accepted at Bishop's University.

Jennifer Lukovich will attend the University of Winnipeg to study Arts and Sciences. She won the University of Winnipeg Alumnae Scholarship.

Shaista Mohammadi will study Biological Sciences at McGill University.

Julia Pouliot will attend Simon Fraser University to major in Visual Arts and Theatre Production.

Nicolette Rieger plans to enter Dramatic Studies at the University of Winnipeg, and will complete her professional dance training with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

Marnie Smith will major in Chemistry at the University of Winnipeg.

Nuthinepan Tantivejakul "A," will study Computer Science at the University of Toronto.

Sue Tomlinson will study Fine Arts at Bishop's University.

Kathryn Young plans to attend the University of Victoria to study Arts.

Our sister school students from Japan – **Maria Kajita**, **Akiko Takeda** and **Mayumi Wada** are returning to Japan's Eiwa College to study. **Akiko Uchiyama** will be studying Science at the University of Winnipeg.

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I N M E M O R I A M

Marian (Moody) Pearson, Havergal, November 1989.

Herbert H.G. Moody, Havergal, February 1991.

Mary (Speechley) Stanfield, Havergal, June 1990.

Julia (Adamson) Dickson, Rupert's Land, December 1989.

Kaye (Milner) Minions, '42, Rupert's Land, July 1990.

Verna Gertrude (McGregor) Restall, '36, Rupert's Land, October 1990.

Barbara (Douglas) Stevens, '49, Rupert's Land, August 1990.

Margaret (Glover) Sukava, Rupert's Land, October, 1990.

Cynthia (Roblin) Brown, '35, Rupert's Land, December 1990.

Mary Lile (Love) Benham, '32, Rupert's Land, January 1991.

Dr. Pamela (Hutchins) Orr Edmonds, '35, Rupert's Land, March 1991.

Kathleen (Murphy) Graham, '22, Rupert's Land, May, 1991.

Joan (Carruthers) Mather, '48, Riverbend, December 1990.

Deborah (Ferguson) Mancer, '69, Balmoral Hall, June 1990.

Doris Mary Hart, staff member, August 1989.

Evelyn C. Smith, staff member, January 1990.

Dorothy Bussell, staff member Riverbend, December 1990.

Ruth Elva Henry, staff member Balmoral Hall, February 1991.

BH fondly remembered

I am writing to you to inform you that Mrs. Doris Mary Hart died in England, at the end of August '89. She remembered her years in Canada with affection and she made many friends.

Daughter, Miriam J. Hart.

Musical tribute to BH

While celebrating 25 years in Nursing, working across Canada and in the United States, I've begun to exercise my gift of music. As a mature student at Lakehead University in the late 1970s while taking my degree in Nursing, I wrote two consecutive satirical revues poking fun at student life. In the past three years, I have written a show a year; one for the Provincial Librarians' Annual Convention, one called "RN (Real Nurse)" a satirical tribute to my chosen profession and, most recently, wrote and helped produce a musical revue to celebrate Lakehead University's Silver Jubilee.

Not bad for a kid who can neither read nor write music, eh?

*Evadne (Ward) Benson
BH '63*

Editor's note: Linda (Leach) Radcliffe says nobody, but nobody, plays "Born Free" better than Evadne! She's a magnificent pianist!

Busy at Bishop's University

As usual, I'm quite involved with the Student Council here. I was a Frosh Leader during our Welcome Week and I'm very busy right now as I am the Chairperson for the Homecoming Committee. I also ran for Chairperson of our Winter Carnival. (I had such a great time organizing it with everyone at B.H. in '89.) Anyway, just thought I'd keep you informed!

*Mekhul Ramgoolam
BH '89*

'80 Grad seeks classmates

It has been now been ten years since our class has graduated and since there was no re-union, I would like to contact as many of my old classmates as possible.

*Jane Kellock
B.H. '80*



Brigitte Berezney, '75, meets her teen idol, David Cassidy, 20 years later.

Keeping in touch with Hong Kong

Thanks for keeping in touch with me! I was really sorry to hear that Mrs. Honey had passed away, she was a kind-hearted lady in my memory. As for myself, being a female engineer does mean suffering from harassment and discriminations from time to time, but the career is still rewarding.

*Julia Kwok, B.H. '83.
Hong Kong*

Perseverance pays off!

Funny about how things work out. I actually met and attended a private party with David Cassidy while he was on a promotional tour recently in Toronto. It was a long wait— 20 years to be exact!!

*Brigitte Berezney
BH '75*

Good memories

As before, I would like to say hello to the former students whom I meet on the pages of the *The Portal*. Seeing their names/pictures evokes many memories! What a pity my teaching here (in Holland) precludes my attending any of the Balmoral Hall affairs where I might see them personally. So, just a "Hi", "How are you", to:

Ditte Lansky, Nancy Flintoft, Jane Ferguson, Ann Morton, Cathy Hunt, Joan Rankin (I still have the Mexican bull whip!), Jennifer Cox, Kathy Neilsen, Trish Johnston, Pam Williams, Sally Spohn, — I'm almost sure I remember Kathy McDonald — and many more. Special regards to Miss Lucas. My five years at Balmoral Hall left so many good memories.

*Marion (Hijmans) van Assendelft
B.H. Staff*

A unique Lady

Dear Friends of Miss Dorothy Bussell: I am very sorry to relate to you that our dear friend, Dorothy, passed away at the Sunnybrook Medical Centre, Toronto, Ontario, December 18, 1990.

I felt that I know you, her friends and relatives. She talked of you often and treasured your friendship and she never forgot anyone who had ever been kind to her. She asked me to inform you of her passing. I should have liked to tell you in person, to enter your home, sit down and talk about this wonderful woman who brought so much happiness to our lives. I saw her weekly for the last eight years of her life; should there be any details of her latter years in Canada that you'd like to hear more of, do not hesitate to write or phone.

It grieves me to have to tell you that this unique lady is no longer with us. I am sorry.

*Yours sincerely,
James C. Potter*

A school year abroad: "What an experience!"

G'day mates, my name is Beth and, like yourselves, I was a member of the B.H. family until last year when I decided to embark on a great foreign adventure and applied to be an exchange student in Australia.

As a participant of the program with which I was associated, I was placed with a host family for a year and was enrolled at the local high school as a Grade 12 student. As a representative of my country, I was greeted with interest and friendship wherever I went, and I discovered a new-found patriotism and appreciation of Canada and its traditions. At the same time, however, I developed a strong love and respect for the new culture in which I was immersed. The sights I saw, and friends I made, will remain with me for the rest of my life, to remind me of the immeasurable benefits possible when someone takes on new and different goals and turns them into realities.

Like anything else in life, this is an

example of "you get out of it what you put into it," and the limits are endless. The opportunity is there for you to broaden your outlook on life and develop an open-minded approach to anything you may choose to do.

I would strongly recommend foreign study as an option to anyone who feels a yearning to broaden their horizons or even just to try something different and challenging. Various programs are available to you, so ask yourself: "Self, could this be the thing for me?" and if the answer is "Yes,," then see your school guidance counsellor for more information.

*Beth Kotter
BH '90*

Remembering "Wonderful People"

I married Bruce Sutherland in 1981 and now have two children, Alexis 6, and George 3. I have been studying Commerce since having Alexis and hope to

follow that with a Masters in Hospital Administration. I am still flying with Air Canada and have continued to do so since 1972. Bruce is a Lt. Colonel in the Canadian Air Force, and we have moved three times since 1981.

Although I didn't graduate from B.H., I met some wonderful people during my brief time there. Winnipeg is still home to me and I would very much like to stay in touch.

I look forward to an eventual posting to Winipeg, and the re-acquaintance with old friends.

*Sincerely,
Jill Macfarlane Sutherland*

Missing Riverbend days

I love to get your mailings and information, though my beloved Riverbend is so changed now (after 50 years) that I find it hard even to relate to the school and its broader realm...even to the buildings.

We lived just down the road, at the nearer end of East Gate, and when one day I missed the only day of school I ever missed, the whole class (all eight of them) walked over at recess (most illegally) to see why I was absent. (I went back after lunch.)

I will close by saying again, that wonderful reunion will always rank with the highlights of my life.

*Lydia (Klein) Engebretson
Riverbend '38*

New position for BH Alum

I am leaving Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology to take up the position of Assistant Director, Public Services at the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library.

I enjoy receiving the alumnae news from B.H. and have also enjoyed meeting with old friends at the reunions in Toronto.

*Dora Dempster
Balmoral Hall '63*



Beth Kotter (centre front) graduates with her Australian friends in 1990, in a fulfilling and rewarding exchange program.

Spirit Week

B. H.

*By Sarah Coyle
Grade 6*

B. H. is Green —
Green grass, Green trees, Green uniforms.

B. H. is Gold—
Golden in opportunities, Golden in education

B. H. is White—
Pure and bright like the fallen snow in wintertime.

B. H. is Brick—
Brick buildings – solid, bold and strong.

B. H. is Water—
Flowing, ebbing and changing.

B. H. is old—B. H. is new—
Looking into the future for me and you!

Why I like B. H.

*By Sarah Jean Wehrle
Grade 6*

At B. H. the teachers are friendly
They'll help you with Science or Math.
If you need help with your Social Studies,
They'll show you Jacques Cartier's path.

At B. H. they don't allow gum-chewing,
Or eating during a lesson.
They want you to pay attention
And learn about the Depression.

Some kids think that is silly,
But I think it's a justified rule.
After all, I do want to do well on exams,
And, B. H. is a very good school.

They let you have responsibility.
We vote for Head Girl and Vice-Head.
We make lots of our own preferred choices,
And pick our own things, as I've said.

At B. H. we all live in harmony.
We have our own little world,
And, looking back on four years, I can say
I'm proud to be a B. H. girl.



PHOTO: ALBERT CHEUNG

B. H. Booster

*By Kim Bjorklund
Grade 6*

B. H. really is the best,
With its uniform and traditional crest,
Computer Club, Sports Club, Thursday Clubs, too,
There's always something for us to do.

You start in Junior School, Senior School is
at the end,
Middle School is in between for when you round
the bend.

We sing and ring in music,
In gym we have lots of fun,
So, as you see, there we are again,
Always on the run.

We are really, really busy
Every moment of the day,
Art, Science, Social Studies,
Recess—time to play!

The teachers are really great, the
prefects and heads are, too.
The students are really super,
So are parents just like YOU!

So, whether you're touring the school,
Or wherever you may be,
Balmoral Hall is excellent,
Guaranteed by me!



FOUNDED IN 1901

Balmoral Hall School

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